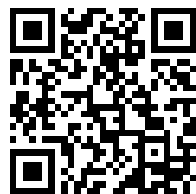

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF MISSISSIPPI,

ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS,

FROM ITS ORGANIZATION JULY 27TH, 5818, TO INCLUDE THE
COMMUNICATION HELD IN THE YEAR 5852,

COMPILED FROM THE "EXTRACTS FROM THE PROCEEDINGS."

BY A COMMITTEE OF THE GRAND LODGE.

JACKSON, MISS.:
CLARION STEAM PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT.

1882.

COMMITTEE ON REPRINTING PROCEEDINGS.
FREDERIC SPEED, Chairman,
JOHN LOGAN POWER,
PHINNEAS M. SAVERY.

HISTORICAL MEMORANDA.

The Grand Lodge of Mississippi was organized in the city of Natchez, on the 27th day of July, 1818, by a convention consisting of Masters, Wardens and Past Masters of Harmony Lodge, No. 33, holding under the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 15, and Washington Lodge, No. 17, holding under the Grand Lodge of Tennessee.

The Grand Lodge of Mississippi is descended from the Grand Lodge of York, through both the Ancients and the Moderns, and from the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland, which also held originally from York. The Grand Lodge of York, after the establishment of the Grand Lodge of England, was known as the Grand Lodge of All England. We trace our descent as follows: The Grand Lodge of Virginia was formed October 30th, 1778, by Lodges which received their charters from the Grand Masters of both the English Grand Lodges and those of Scotland, Ireland and Pennsylvania. The latter derived its authority from the Grand Lodge of England, but one of the constituent Lodges, over which Bro. Benjamin Franklin presided, was chartered in 1754, by the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, which was chartered by the Grand Master of England. Virginia chartered Lexington Lodge, No. 25, at Lexington; Paris, No. 35, at Paris, and Nos. 46 and 57, Virginia enumeration, (probably Georgetown and Hiram,) and these four, through their representatives, organized the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.

The Grand Lodge of Kentucky chartered Harmony Lodge, No. 7, at Natchez, October 16th, 1801, which, in consequence of some confusion in the Craft, surrendered its charter August 30th, 1814, and received a new dispensation August 30th, 1815, and in the following year was chartered as No. 33.

The Grand Lodge of Scotland chartered the Grand Lodge of North Carolina in 1771, and that body chartered Harmony Lodge, No. 1, of Nashville, Tennessee Lodge, No. 2, of Knoxville, "Town

of Franklin," and Newport, No. 4, all in what is now the State of Tennessee. These three Lodges formed the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, and charters were granted by it to Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 15, at Natchez, August 13th, 1816, and to Washington Lodge, No. 17, at Port Gibson, April 19th, 1817.

The first Lodge organized by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, was Warren, No. 4, held in the town of Greenville, Jefferson county, its charter having been granted January 21st, 1821. The second being Columbus, No. 5, for which a dispensation was granted on the same day Warren, No. 4, was chartered.

Seth Lewis, who was the first Worshipful Master in Mississippi, was born in Massachusetts in 1764, and died near Alexandria, La., in 1848. In 1800 he was Chief Justice of Mississippi Territory. He is described as erect even in his old age, with long white hair covering a massive head, high and broad forehead, a playful but keen and penetrating eye, grave in manner, commanding the respect of all who knew him—a stone well formed, true and trusty, fitted for the foundation of the temple.

COMPILER'S NOTES.

The published proceedings of the Grand Lodge, from its organization to include the year 1845, are merely "extracts from the proceedings." The loss of the manuscript records, renders any attempt to supply omitted matter useless.

It will be observed that while the labors of the Compiler have been mainly directed to the work of condensation, in no instance has the original phraseology of resolutions or reports been altered, except to supply words omitted by the printer, and which were necessarily inserted to complete the sense—and, also, except that the names of Lodges have been stricken out, and they referred to by their numbers, and the details of the financial reports have been omitted. The matter omitted has been of a purely routine character, and it is believed was of too ephemeral a nature to render its incorporation into the re-print of value.

It is to be regretted that the funds of the Grand Lodge did not permit of the execution of the original intention of the Committee to make a complete consolidated return of each Lodge, for the period included into the re-print. As a substitute, the first return is given.

A reprint of the proceedings of the Convention which organized the Grand Lodge was made in 1825. On the title page it is called the "Constitution and By-Laws," etc., although no "by-laws" are contained therein or appear to have been adopted during the period covered by this re-print.

There have been numerous editions of the Constitutions printed, but as all the matter therein contained is to be found in the proceedings of the years when the several Articles became a part of the organic law of the Grand Lodge, it was not deemed necessary to reprint any of them, except that printed in the year 1830, which contains matter not found in the "Extracts from the Proceedings."

The edition of the Constitution printed in 1845 contains a compilation of Resolutions, etc., under the title of "General and Permanent Regulations," but it was not until 1850 that any methodical arrangement of the matter was attempted, sub-titles having been inserted and the paragraphs numbered in that edition; these were first called "Sections," in the edition printed in 1858, at which time the matter was separated into "General and Permanent Regulations" and "Rules and Regulations," the former relating to the government of the Grand and the latter the Subordinate Lodges.

PAGE 84.

The Grand Lodge adopted a resolution adjourning from January 9th, 1828,

'until the third Monday in February next, and directing that the Grand Secretary notify the Subordinate Lodges thereof." As there is no record of a meeting on the 3d Monday of February, 1828, it is presumed that the word "next" was inadvertently inserted instead of the words 1829. This view is confirmed by the fact, that an amendment had been adopted on the previous day, to the Constitution, changing the time of the Annual Communication from January to February.

PAGE 92.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Communications was agreed to, and the first resolution ordered sent to the several Grand Lodges, but directed to be omitted from the printed proceedings. The loss of the original record leaves us in ignorance as to the nature of this resolution.

PAGE 109.

"H. Miller" is a misprint for "H. Millard."

PAGE 122.

The Constitution of 1830 is not indexed article by article. The By-Laws were not printed in the original, although the caption reads "Constitution and By-Laws."

PAGE 121.

The word "Past" in Sec. 9, 3d, appears in the original. It is undoubtedly a misprint, as it is scarcely probable that the Past Senior Grand Warden would have ranked in the order of succession before the Junior Grand Warden in office.

PAGE 245.

Quotation marks should follow the word "privileges" in the twenty-sixth line.

PAGE 567.

One paragraph of the report is omitted through error; the substance of which is, that notwithstanding sundry errors in proceedings, by-laws, etc., "believing the petitioners to be actuated by a laudable desire," etc., the Committee recommend that charters be issued.

PAGE 596.

The word "Vicksburg" is an error. Warren Lodge, No. 4, was held in the town of Greenville, Jefferson county.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

JOHN ANTHONY QUITMAN.

BY BRO. ALBERT PIKE.*

When the world has wearied of lamenting the loss of even its most illustrious Dead, the friends that loved and the family that idolized still mourn for him with a softened melancholy, and drop their tears of chastened sorrow upon his grave.

On the seventeenth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty-eight, a great and good man died; and a mighty Republic, with, as it were, "a cry of lamentation, a voice as of one agony," uttered its anguish at the unexpected loss of one of her purest statesmen and bravest soldiers.

The next day his body lay in state, shrouded by the flag of his country, which his genius and daring as a General had aided to cover with new glories: the cannon, whose voices once were welcome music to his ear, uttered half-hourly their inarticulate cries of sorrow: the tolling bells smote the pained ear with melancholy notes; the flags sadly drooped at half-mast; all business was with one impulse suspended in the city near which he had lived; and a great multitude of those who loved and honored him,—his neighbors, the people from many miles around, the military, and the Lodges of our Order with their peaceful emblems, followed his mortal remains to the grave.

Then, commencing at the capital of the nation, the echoes of the nation's guns, at every military post all over the national domain, to the Saint Lawrence, the Mexican Gulf, and the far Pacific, with short, stern utterance, for a whole day proclaimed that the nation was in mourning. Orators eloquently eulogized the dead, and recounted to great audiences his virtues, his great deeds, the stirring story of his chequered life. Masonry lifted up her voice of lamentation, and her sighs mingled with those of his family and friends. And afterwards, in the councils of the nation, those who had known him long and well, paid eloquent tribute to his noble qualities and heroic achievements: and political opponents of the Illustrious Dead were among the foremost in crowning his memory with the laurel.

The last echoes of eulogy and sorrow have died away, and the broad stream of business and ambition, for a moment checked in its course, flows onward as irresistibly as before; and now it is eminently proper that the high Masonic body of which our Ill. Brother JOHN ANTHONY QUITMAN was an honored and a valued member, and which has as yet paid no formal tribute to his memory, nor proclaimed the great loss which in his death it suffered, should here speak its simple and sincere words of regret and sorrow.

"Solemn and appointed mournings," says an old writer, "are good expressions of our affection for the departed soul, and of his worth and our value of him; and they have their praise in nature, and in manners, and in public customs."

Accordingly it hath pleased the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, of the 33d and last degree of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United

*From an Address at a Lodge of Sorrow held in the City of Washington, D. C., March 30th, 1863, by the Supreme Council.

States, to hold this Lodge of Sorrow in remembrance of him, and to require me to say what is becoming the occasion, in regard to himself, his nature, and the actions of his life. I purpose now to do so, as Masonry requires, not in the language of adulation and indiscriminate eulogy, but in that of the simple truth.

Born on the first day of September, in the year seventeen hundred and ninety-nine, our Illustrious Brother had not quite attained the age of three-score, when he lay calmly down to sleep his last sleep, on the seventeenth day of July, eighteen hundred and fifty-eight. He had not reached that age which the country has generally required as a qualification in those whom she has chosen to be the recipients of her highest honors. Every one presaged for him, if his life had been prolonged, the attainment of the loftiest station which the Republic had to offer.

Born in the State of New York, at Rhinebeck, in the County of Dutchess, within hearing of the rapid waters of the Hudson, he removed in early manhood to the southern State of Mississippi, and died on the banks of the great river that bears that name, where he had lived for nearly forty years; and so true was he to the people of his adopted State, and so well did they love him, that none ever reproached him with his northern birth, nor suspected his fidelity to the interests and institutions of the country which he had chosen to be the birth-place of his children and the burial-place of himself.

Educated at first for the ministry, at the desire of his father, Doctor Frederick Henry Quitman, an emigrant from Prussia, and the minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church at Rhinebeck, where in the morning he preached in German, and in the afternoon in English, to the plain and honest people who listened with reverence to the law uttered by his lips,—thoroughly instructed in the languages, to fit him for that ministry, he preferred the study and practice of the law, and became Professor of that science in his twentieth year. He was an honorary graduate of the College of New Jersey, and studied law in Philadelphia. Then removing to Ohio and there opening an office, he remained but little time, soon removing to Mississippi and settling at Natchez. The young student of Divinity became an able and influential lawyer, an upright and eminent judge, an energetic and wealthy planter, and finally a daring soldier and skillful general, and died an honored member of the national Legislature.

Settling at Natchez in 1822, in a country then new, rude, and undeveloped, the energy of his character and the vigor of his intellect speedily made him a man of mark. "It was," said his successor in Congress, "as a professional man and jurist, that he 'made for himself his first and most enviable character.' At the Bar, always true to the honor of his profession, he was strictly 'faithful to his client and to the Court; to his associate as well as opposing counsel, he was kind, courteous, and obliging; towards all the members of the 'profession, pleasant and agreeable in all his relations; and such was his 'known sense of right and honor, that his advocacy of a cause gave to it the 'merit of justice, which usually carried with it success.'"

In 1827 he was elected to the Legislature of the State; and in 1828 was made Chancellor, and presided in the Court of Equity for three years. In 1839 he was again invested with the ermine for a time, being elected a judge of the High Court of Errors and Appeals. How he demeaned himself as a magistrate, we have been told in these words, very honorable to his memory:

"On the bench, the uprightness and integrity of his character, the clearness of his judgment, and the discernment of his mind impressed the council and the parties in his Court with the conviction that in every cause before him justice would be strictly administered, without prejudice or favor. With fear he was not acquainted. His name was associated with all that was pure and noble in the legal professional, and as the honored wearer of the ermine, as he had done when a counsellor at the bar he gained for himself an enviable and 'stainless reputation.'"

In 1833 he was a member of the Convention which framed the present Constitution of his adopted State. A lawyer in the best sense of the word, and not carrying the habits of the bar, in the dexterous handling of unsound and insincere argument, into the halls where the lawyer becomes the Lawgiver, he bore a prominent and important part in the debates of that body; and his intellect and knowledge enabled him to imbed his own ideas deeply and permanently in the organic law of Mississippi.

In 1835 he was elected to the Senate of the State, and being chosen its President, he became by virtue of his office the Governor of the State, and so continued for some months. In his message as Governor, sent to the Legislature in January, 1836, he warmly advocated a liberal system of education for the people, declaring it to be the duty of the State to provide the means for the education of her children, and urging that only the intelligence of educated and enlightened freemen can successfully maintain free constitutional government.

In 1836, when Texas was struggling to achieve her independence, he repaired thither, to offer her his sword. For wherever men rose against tyranny and endeavored to establish free institutions, there, all his life went all his sympathies; and in this as in all things else, he obeyed the teachings of Scottish Masonry. Doing everything well which he undertook to do, he gave early promise of that martial spirit and aptitude for military affairs, by which he afterwards became so distinguished. Prevented by circumstances from being with the column which fought the battle of San Jacinto, and ended the war of Texan Independence, he returned to Mississippi, and again addressed himself to the varied tasks of civil life.

In 1846 the way to military glory was open to him. The war with Mexico began, and he tendered his services to the government of his country, and was appointed a Brigadier-General of Volunteers. Afterwards he was promoted to the rank of Major-General. Serving first under Taylor and then under Scott, he shared the glories won by both those great Captains. Under one he was at Monterey, and he marched with the victorious eagles of the other from Vera Cruz to Mexico.

It was in the last engagement in the valley of Mexico, those brilliant operations that crowned a succession of glorious victories, says a gallant soldier who was competent to judge, that our Ill.^l. Brother exhibited the highest qualities of an accomplished soldier and an able and successful commander. On the morning of the 13th of September, 1847, his division assaulted the Castle of Chapultepec. Dashing across the plain between the main road and the castle, they carried the batteries that they found on their route, and forced their way up the side of the steep hill on which that ancient fortress stood, in the face of a destructive fire, and, the summit thus gained, united in a combined assault upon the castle. It was carried, and the key to the city of Mexico was in the hands of our army.

Early in the afternoon of the same day, his division attacked a large force of the enemy, and pursued them along the aqueduct on one of the main approaches to the Aztec capital, drove them headlong through the Belen Gate, which they carried at the point of the bayonet, in the face of a murderous fire of grape and musketry; then having driven the enemy from the batteries that commanded the entrance, those brave troops flung themselves down upon the ground, wet with their own blood and that of the enemy, and slept that night within the city walls. All that day from the first moment to the last, our Ill.^l. Bro.^l. was at the head of his command, in the hottest fire, animating his men, directing their movements, and inspiring them with his own ardent and fiery spirit.

He received the surrender of the citadel, and was appointed by Gen. Scott military governor of the city. For his distinguished services, the Congress of his country voted him a sword, and never was testimonial of desert more richly merited by man.

At the close of the Mexican war, Gen. Quitman laid down his arms forever

and returned to his adopted State. She delighted to do him honor, and in November, 1849, he was elected governor of the State, by a very large majority and installed in January, 1850. In 1855 he was elected to the House of Representatives of the United States, where he was placed at the head of the Committee on Military Affairs; and it was while still occupying this station that death, whom he had so often fronted in the field, laid his cold hand upon him, in the quiet and peaceful retirement of his own home.

"Years of experience," said a distinguished colleague of the great dead, "had set upon his brow the crown of wisdom and of public confidence; and "therefore his services became, with every revolving year, more valuable to "his country. He yet retained enough of physical and intellectual vigor to "promise that his life would be long, and his career of usefulness add much to "his country's welfare."

Nevertheless, as is said in the *Hava Maal, or Sublime Book of Odin*, "it is better to live well than to live long." The length of a man's life is not measured by the number of hours during which he breathes, but by his actions, and their value wherewith he fills those otherwise empty hours. An useless life is less than a span long, though it last a century. To do nothing worth doing, is no more than to sleep; and what were life if it were only one continuous sleep? So, too, when one has lived well and acted well his part up to life's meridian, it is often fortunate to be spared the sicknesses and disappointments, the decaying intellect and contracting heart, that so often come upon one with old age.

Our Illustrious Brother had acted well his part in the drama of life. He had been an affectionate father, a kind neighbor, an upright citizen. Simple, courteous, dignified in his deportment, singularly quiet and unostentatious, most gentle in his manners, having always commanded the respect and esteem of all, even of those whose views and opinions most widely differed from his own, he had at all times and every where exhibited an unswerving devotion to principle, and a singular integrity, which distinguished alike his political and private life. All the duties which his manifold public trusts imposed upon him he had well and faithfully discharged. Firm, inflexible, and fearless in the performance of whatever he in his conscience believed to be his duty, no man ever dreamed of impugning his honesty or impeaching his honor. He lent effectual aid to many great and laudable designs; he had large share in many measures that promoted his country's welfare; and he added new lustre to his country's flag, and vigorously maintained her honor. He stamped his impress deeply upon the institutions of his State; he labored with earnestness to extend and diffuse the blessings of constitutional freedom. He took his part with the best of men in the best of their actions; and after what he had thus done and done so well, he might in the language of a great man, "be well content "to shut the book, even if he might have wished to read a page or two more. "It was enough for his measure. He had not lived in vain."

Such a man, of high principle, of stern integrity, of warm heart and generous impulses, with a mind well informed, cultivated and refined, and a spirit generous, unselfish, noble and chivalric; the poor man's friend; the advocate and defender of individuals oppressed, and nations under the brutal heel of tyranny,—it was but natural that he should seek early admission among the Initiates, and become a zealous and energetic member of the great Order.

He was made a Mason in Hiram Lodge, No. 18, Delaware, Ohio, in the year 1820, that is, in the same year in which he attained the age of majority. Thus his life-service in Masonry commenced with his manhood, and his devotion to its pure and ennobling principles continued until the sun of his life set in a cloudless sky. In 1821 he was Junior Warden of the Lodge in which he was first brought to light. After his removal to Natchez, he became a member of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, of the State of Mississippi. In 1823 he was elected Grand Marshal of the Grand Lodge, and in 1824 he became Master of Harmony Lodge, and was exalted to the degree of Royal Arch. In 1825 he was elected Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge; and in 1826 he was elected

Grand Master, and High Priest of Natchez Chapter, No. 1, and was presented by Harmony Lodge with a jewel, as a token of its esteem.

From 1829 to 1836 he was annually re-elected High Priest of Natchez Chapter; from 1826 to 1838 he was annually re-elected Grand Master of Masons, declined serving in 1839, and was, without his knowledge, re-elected in 1840, but could not undertake to perform the duties of the office. In 1830, when the Grand Consistory of Princes of the Royal Secret was established at Natchez, he was made its Presiding Officer, and served as such for several years. In 1845 and 1846, the Masons of Mississippi again claimed his services as Grand Master, and he discharged the duties of that office with his usual urbanity, ability, and dignity, and, as he did those of every other, to the perfect satisfaction of the brethren; until, on his departure for Mexico, he insisted that, as he could not, when absent from the State, perform the duties of Grand Master, another brother should be selected to fill the chair.

Assiduous in every department of Masonry, he was a member of Natchez Council, No. 1, of Royal and Select Masters.

On his return from Mexico, in 1848, he received, in Charleston, the 33d degree, and became, by election, an active member of the Supreme Council, which now holds this Lodge of Sorrow in honor of his memory. That office he held until his death.

At the same time that he became an Inspector General, he was made an Honorary member of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina; and the same honor was paid him by the Grand Lodge of New York.

Thus the same energy, activity, and love of popular esteem which actuated him in every other sphere—ever pressing him on to vigorous exertion—advanced him to the highest honors in the peaceful realms of Masonry; and here, as everywhere else, he acted upon the principle that the duties of life are more than life. He never forgot that we are taught in Masonry, that “a Freemason should be a man of honor and of conscience, preferring his duty to every thing else beside, even to his life.” “Duty to his country,” said one “who knew him well, “marked his career, both military and civil. In this “devotion to duty he passed the last days of his life, and to it fell a victim.” He was one, my brethren, who, if the occasion had offered, would have said as the Roman did, when necessity of weather was alleged to hold him from embarking on a voyage commanded by the public exigency: *Necesse est ut eam “non ut vivam”—“It needs that I go; that I live it doth not need.”*

It was a great thing to be said of any man, that which was said of him by a companion in arms in the Senate of the United States: “No American will ever “be found to do injustice to the reputation of General Quitman.” This is because, as the same brave soldier said, “In word and deed, on all occasions and under all “circumstances, his bearing and conduct were such that no man ever approached “him without becoming impressed with the inherent manliness and the exalted “heroism of his whole character.” It was because, though daring even to rashness, in the extreme boldness and even ultraism of his political opinions, and frank and bold in expressing and advocating them, he always exhibited, in social intercourse and in the eagerness of debate, the true and gentle courtesy of a Mason and a Knight. In the House of Representatives of the United States, says one who did not coincide with him in political opinion, “when “calm men lost their balance, and quiet men were borne down by the excitement of passion and the fury of partisan warfare, his feeble voice and grey “locks arrested instant attention, and all crowded around to hear his words of “kindness and moderation; because there dropped from his lips instruction “and not insult, enlightenment and not exasperation; and men forgot their “passion in the soberness of his counsels.” The lessons of forbearance, mildness, and courtesy in debate which he learned in early manhood in the Symbolic Lodge, and which all his life he practiced in the higher Masonic Bodies, bore this good fruit, when, just and firm, courteous and frank, he thus stood amid the eddying elements of the House of Representatives.

None will do his memory injustice, nor desire to erase a word of all the eulogies uttered by affection and regard ;—because all men knew the purity of his patriotism, his lofty and nice sense of honor, and his love, not only for the State of his adoption, that was so proud of him, but also for his *whole* country, this Union, whose flag he bore in safety over the bloody field of Chapultepec, and planted on the captured citadel of Mexico. It was because, as one who loved him well has well said: "If he had a fault, there stood by its side a virtue so prominent as to overshadow it; and if not entirely to conceal it, to give it to such an extent its own coloring as to shade it from the common observation. If he committed an error, there stood out the purity of his motives, challenging the admiration of his friends, and commanding the respect of his opponents; and what might have been censured or condemned in others, in him was overlooked."

He was ambitious; "but his ambition was," says another, "of that lofty kind that made him despise all devious paths. He was wealthy, yet no man could have been less ostentatious." He sought to rival others; but that rivalry, as was said concerning Cato, "was not of wealth with the rich, nor of faction with the factions. He strove to be the peer and out-doer of the bold-est in bravery, of the most unpretending in modesty, of the most innocent in abstinence. He rather chose to be than to seem good; and so, the less he sought for glory, the more he attained it."

He was neither orator nor rhetorician. His style had not the fervor and fire of the one, nor the accurate ease and polish of the other. But his judgment was rarely at fault, and he was as wise in debate as in council. The processes of his logic were slow, but accurate. He made up his opinions and attained his conclusions deliberately; acted with unflinching will and resolution, and rarely encountered defeat. His language was concise, simple and cogent. Ornament he wisely left unattempted, his inheritance of fancy and imagination being inconsiderable. But his frankness, his straightforward manliness, his love for truth, which was indeed his idol, always made whatever he said effective. If eloquence be those gifts of language and manner combined, which influence and convince, then earnestness, and directness, and self-evident truthfulness, and sincerity, are its first requisites, and our Illustrious Brother was an eloquent debater. It has been with great appreciation said of him, that his chief characteristic was quiet energy. The greatest force is that which is habitually in repose. He was neither pretentious nor demonstrative. What he said in debate was never ambitious. Between his simple style and plain and quiet manner, and the reach and vigor of the principles he enunciated there was a great contrast: his German blood showed itself in that. Men of the heaviest metal, the same eulogist said, are thus, not uncommonly, men of the quietest means. Their weight is intrinsic, and dwells in the thought itself more than in the mode of expression of the thought. The idea is worth somewhat, that may be briefly and simply expressed, as Quitman was in the habit of expressing his, leaving them to make their way by their own intrinsic force. It is thus that all great ideas are uttered by the great Kings of Thought. It is only the unsound or the commonplace that is ushered into the world with show and parade, with all the arts of the rhetorician, and "long harmonious populace of words."

To me the most convincing proof of the simple frankness and genial power of persuasion and influence of our Illustrious Brother, is that which we are told of his power of attaching to him the young. They have a singular instinct to detect insincerity, and an unconquerable dislike for pretence. Youth almost unerringly detects the coin that in those respects is counterfeit. He was fond of the society of young men; and the gentleness of his manners, his unvarying kindness, and his evident sympathy with their warm and ardent impulses, made all love him who was so fortunate as to be much with him, won their confidence, ennobled their aspirations and ambition, and when he died caused many a bearded cheek to be wet with tears of the sincerest sorrow.

Equally fortunate was he in attaching to him the soldiery whom he commanded. One who served under him has said: "Few officers ever succeeded in winning as he did the love, respect and admiration of those whom they commanded. This love and admiration he won by no studied arts, by no relaxation of necessary discipline, but by his noble bearing, his uniform kindness, and the happy blending in his demeanor of modesty with self-reliance, gentleness with firmness, dignity with suavity of manner. The humblest soldier never approached him without receiving at his hands the most considerate attention; and he often visited those whom disease had pros-
"trated, to counsel, encourage, and minister to them."

This wise and far-seeing statesman, and brave and accomplished soldier, was also a fast friend, the kindest of fathers, the best of masters. Genial in his nature and social in disposition, he was the delight of the society in which he lived. Most sensitive and quick to resent even the appearance of aspersion on his character, he was still so courteous and mild, though firm, as to prevent personal collisions. Bravest of the brave, he was pre-eminently a man of peace. Wealthy, he was the poor man's friend; lover of the Union, he was the most earnest and ready defender of the rights and honor of the section of the Union in which he lived. Profoundly respecting public opinion, and fond of popular approbation, yet, with a moral courage that never faltered, he frankly uttered his views on all subjects whatever, and disdained to conceal, as he scorned through policy to qualify, his political opinions. All this, those who knew him said of him while he lived; and we may therefore well continue to say it, when he is in his grave and utterly indifferent to our praise or censure.

To what extent these varied excellencies were owing to the influences of Masonry can never accurately be known. Much, of course, was due to nature; but more, of every man's fate and fortunes, is due to circumstances and to training.

Without saying that, when we speak of cause and effect, we at bottom only mean that of two things one constantly precedes and the other follows, we may at least say, that if one could, habitually, from the first flowering of his manhood, hear and repeat, solemnly promise for himself, and as solemnly charge others, to be governed by the precepts of pure morality, the lessons of disinterestedness, devotedness, honesty, frankness, patience, temperance, fortitude, and justice, which Masonry continually inculcates, without being greatly influenced and his conduct sensibly controlled by the lessons so received; then it is the most idle of all things to rely on *any* moral or religious instruction as a means and instrument by which to improve and elevate the nature of men.

It must at least be admitted to be a striking coincidence, that the very virtues which Masonry chiefly insists upon, are those by which our Illustrious Brother was particularly distinguished. TRUTH, "that divine attribute, and the foundation of every virtue," the strictest observance whereof Masonry inculcates on every Initiate as soon as he crosses the threshold of her Temple, — TRUTH, which includes *Sincerity, Frankness, and Plain-Dealing*, was so much his distinguishing virtue, that perhaps no man was ever known to doubt his word. And in the whole conduct of his life, the qualities which chiefly contributed to his success were his *Prudence, Temperance, Fortitude and Justice*, the excellence of which is taught to every Mason before he reaches the inner courts of the Temple. * * *

HARVEY WASHINGTON WALTER.

By BRO. FREDERIC SPEED.*

In the stillness of the preceding night a few sparks of electricity flashed over the wires, and all the civilized world read on the morning of the 20th of September last, the brief, but to us who knew and loved him, inexpressibly sad message, "Colonel Walter is amongst the dead of the past twenty-four hours." The noble, brave-hearted man who had, on the breaking out of the great epidemic of 1878, stretched out his hands and bid all the affrighted refugees from fever-stricken points to come to Holly Springs as a place of refuge, lay dead with his face to the foe. There were some of us whose hearts stood still as we read, and whose eyes filled with tears of anguish, and to whom it was a bitter day as to those in a lonely house from which loved ones had departed. We knew that he was ill, but had refused to believe that any harm could come to him; others might die, but surely our dear old friend would pass through the fire, as he had passed over a score of battle fields unscathed. "A thousand shall fall beside thee, and ten thousand at thy right hand, but it shall not come nigh thee," were the words with which we comforted ourselves, when we learned that the dreaded fever had made its appearance at Holly Springs; but alas, we were doomed to experience a bitter disappointment. God's ways are not our ways, and He took whom it seemed to Him best should be taken. Those of us who remain to set up the curtains of our Tabernacle, performing the duty which Freemasonry dictates, submitting, with resignation, to the Supreme Grand High Priest's will, endeavor to place on record our estimate of his worth and to testify our affection for him.

Companion Walter was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, on the 21st day of May, 1819, but a few years later his parents settled at Kalamazoo, Michigan, where his early years were spent. An unfortunate investment consumed his father's entire fortune, and at the age of fourteen our Companion began the battle of life, which he thenceforth fought without parental assistance. Having completed his college course, he came to Mississippi, earning his living by teaching school, while preparing for his admission to the bar. Soon after receiving his license to practice law, in the year 1840, he located at Holly Springs, and from that time his name is inseparably interwoven with the history of his State and county. Prominent in all affairs of public nature, and leader upon every occasion, where the public welfare was concerned, he had little or no taste for political life, and never sought office; it was the public good and not personal advancement which caused him to spend his time, talents and money, which he did with a liberal hand, whenever occasion required it. In social affairs he was always a welcome and honored guest. In his church a prominent and useful member. As a jurist, he stood first and foremost in a bar which was famous throughout the land for its learning and eloquence. As a soldier—though opposed to secession—he was amongst the first during the

* Tribute to the memory of Bro. Walter by the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in the State of Mississippi, 1879.

unhappy war between the sections to enter the field, and he did not sheathe his sword until the echoes of the last gun had ceased to reverberate. In all the relations of life, brave, true, just, generous, he was always the noble, honorable and kind-hearted gentleman, who thought less of himself than of others.

In Masonry, as everywhere else, Companion Walter was distinguished above his fellows. Initiated, passed and raised in Holly Springs Lodge, No. 35; in the year 1842, he rose to be Master 1845. Present at the first Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter in 1847, as the representative of Wilson Chapter No. 5, we find him filling the offices of Principal Sojourner and Captain of the Host in the Chapter for a number of years thereafter, until in 1859 he was elected High Priest. Named as Generalissimo in the dispensation to organize Holly Springs Commandery in 1858, he was afterwards Eminent Commander and continued unto the end an active and zealous Knight Templar.

Companion Walter succeeded to the Grand Mastership on the death of Grand Master Vannatta, in 1844, and for more than thirty-five years was one of the most prominent, active and efficient members of the Grand Lodge. In 1874, he was elected Most Puissant Grand Master of the Grand Council and served in that capacity two years. In 1876 and 1877 he served the Grand Chapter in the capacity of Grand High Priest, and was its Representative at the General Grand Chapter in 1877.

In the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, Companion Walter had attained to the Degree of Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret, 32°.

Thus it will be seen how great was the service Companions Walter rendered to Freemasonry, in all its branches, and we are enabled to realize the measure of the calamity it sustained when he was taken from its council chambers. As he said of another, so we can say of him: "His loss would have been to us irreparable, had he not bequeathed to us an invaluable legacy in the example of virtue and piety, which his life so eminently exhibited. I may say with truth, that his knowledge of Masonry was such as to make him the brightest ornament of our Order, while his devoted attachment to its tenets and his daily practice of its precepts had rendered him one of its most exemplary members. As a man and as a Mason, he ever squared his actions by the teachings of Divine Revelation and ever consulted that great Masonic Trestle Board in all his relations with his fellow-man."

Thus, Companions, day by day, as journeying along the rough and rugged paths of life, we pitch our tents and set up the tabernacle of the Lord, we find the company with which we set out growing smaller, and new and strange faces come and stand in their places, but as we draw nigh to the brink of the river, we shall behold upon the other shore the dear friends for whom we grieve, beckoning us to cross over and join them in the eternal spring time of the life beyond the grave.—

"As distant lands beyond the sea,
When friends go thence, draw nigh;
So Heaven, when friends have thither gone,
Draws nearer from the sky.

"And as those lands the dearer grow,
When friends are long away;
So Heaven itself, through loved ones dead,
Grows nearer, day by day."

PROCEEDINGS OF A CONVENTION
FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
GRAND LODGE OF FREEMASONS,
IN THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

NATCHEZ, 27TH JULY, A. L., 5818.

PURSUANT to certain resolutions of Harmony Lodge, No. 33, unanimously concurred in by Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 15, and Washington Lodge, No. 17, a convention was this day held for the purpose of establishing a Grand Lodge of Ancient Masons in the State of Mississippi; and agreeably to previous notice, the Masters and Wardens of said Lodges, and Past Masters, convened at the city of Natchez, on Monday, the twenty-seventh day of July, A. L. 5818, when the following delegates and brethren appeared in convention:

FROM HARMONY LODGE, No. 33.

Brother CHRISTOPHER RANKIN, W. M.,
CHILTON F. STILES, S. W.,
CHRISTOPHER MILLER, J. W.

FROM ANDREW JACKSON LODGE, No. 15.

Brother EDWARD TURNER, W. M.,
GEORGE R. WILLIAMS, S. W.,
JOHN CORN, J. W.

FROM WASHINGTON LODGE, 17.

Brother ISRAEL LORING, W. M.,
AMOS WHITING, S. W., P. T.,
CORNELIUS HARING, J. W., P. T.

Brothers Elijah Smith, Henry Postlethwaite, George Newman, Henry Tooley, Joseph Newman, Stephen Carter, Lewis Winston, James Lombard, Robert Alexander, Anthony Campbell and David Mathewson, Past Masters.

Bro. E. SMITH, being the eldest Past Master present, was exalted to fill the chair, and Bro. C. F. Stiles was appointed Secretary.

On motion of Brother Rankin, the Convention unanimously,

Resolved, That it is expedient and highly necessary, at this time, to form and organize a Grand Lodge for the State of Mississippi.

On motion, the Convention then proceeded to the election of officers for the government of the Grand Lodge, and on counting the ballots Bro. Henry Tooley was found to be elected M.: W.: Grand Master, and was installed agreeably to ancient form.

The M.: W.: Grand Master was then pleased to appoint and install Bro. Christopher Rankin, R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master.

The Convention then proceeded to elect by ballot the Grand Senior Warden, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Steward and Tyler; when Bro. Israel Loring was chosen W.: Grand Senior Warden; Edward Turner, W.: Grand Junior Warden; Henry Postlethwaite, Grand Treasurer; Chilion F. Stiles, Grand Secretary; Joseph Newman, Grand Steward and Tyler; who were severally installed, and invested with the badges of their respective offices.

The M.: W.: Grand Master appointed Bro. Christopher Miller, Grand Senior Deacon, and the W.: Grand Senior Warden appointed Bro. John Corn, Grand Junior Deacon.

On motion,

Ordered, That a committee be appointed to prepare and report a Constitution for the government of this Grand Lodge, and a circular address to the several Grand Lodges in the United States.

Bros. Rankin, Loring, Turner, Postlethwaite and Campbell, were appointed that committee.

On motion,

Ordered, That the M.: W.: Grand Master be added to the committee.

The Convention then adjourned until to-morrow, 7 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, July 28, A. L. 5818.

The Convention met according to adjournment. Members present as before.

The committee appointed to prepare and report the Constitution and a circular address, reported progress and requested further time to make their final report, which was granted.

The Convention then adjourned until Tuesday, August 25th.

TUESDAY, August 25, A. L. 5818.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

Bro. Rankin, from the Committee appointed to prepare and report a Constitution for the government of the Grand Lodge, reported the following Constitution, which was read and unanimously adopted, and signed by the members present.

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI.

ARTICLE I.

OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND DUTY OF THE GRAND LODGE.

SECTION 1. The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, shall consist of the Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Past Masters, (having been such by office) Past Masters by degree, Officers of the Subordinate Lodges, or the representatives of said Lodges; but no brother shall hereafter become a member of the Grand Lodge until after petitioning, and an unanimous ballot in his favor.

SEC. 2. The Grand Lodge shall not be open for business except there be present the officers or representatives of three Subordinate Lodges.

SEC. 3. The Grand Lodge shall have authority to hear appeals, redress grievances, and remove complaints from Subordinate Lodges; to relieve distressed Brethren, their widows and orphans; to assess such contributions from Subordinate Lodges for charity and other purposes, from time to time, as they shall judge right and proper for the good of Masonry, and to correspond with other Grand Lodges.

SEC. 4. The officers of the Grand Lodge shall be elected at the Grand Communication in the month of January, annually, by ballot, and duly installed.

SEC. 5. The officers of the Grand Lodge shall consist of a Most Worshipful Grand Master, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Worshipful Grand Senior Warden, Worshipful Grand Junior Warden, Most Reverend Grand Chaplain, Grand Orator, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Senior Deacon, Grand Junior Deacon, Grand Marshal, Grand Steward, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Pursuivant and Grand Tyler, who shall be chosen from among the working members of the several Subordinate Lodges.

SEC. 6. The Grand Lodge shall have the superintendence and care of all Subordinate Lodges under their jurisdiction, and direct all their works and designs, and see that they are executed agreeably to the laws, usages and customs of Ancient Masonry; and determine matters brought before the Grand Lodge by votes to be given in the manner observed in the election of officers.

SEC. 7. In the election of officers the following shall be the manner of voting: The voting shall be by written ballots, and every Lodge present by its officers or representatives, shall be entitled to three votes, whether represented by one or more Brethren, and every officer and member of the Grand Lodge otherwise entitled to be there, by being a representative of a particular Lodge, shall have one vote, and in all cases the brother who fills the chair shall have the casting vote.

SEC. 8. The Grand Lodge shall meet at the city of Natchez, on the first Monday of January, annually, which shall be the Grand Annual Communication, when the returns from the Subordinate Lodges shall be received and examined, and committees appointed to examine the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer, Secretary and Steward; to examine visiting brethren, and make reports on complaints and appeals, and give their opinion on all questions and matters submitted to the Grand Lodge for investigation.

SEC. 9. In case of the death, removal or incapacity to act by sickness or otherwise, of the M. W. Grand Master, or any other Grand Officer, all their

powers or privileges shall devolve upon the following brethren according to their rank: First—M.: W.: Grand Master; Second—R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master; Third—W.: Grand Senior Warden; Fourth—W.: Grand Junior Warden; Fifth—Past Grand Officers, according to their rank; Sixth—the presiding officers of Subordinate Lodges, according to their rank; Seventh—Past Masters, according to seniority.

SEC. 10. The Grand Lodge may appoint some expert and well informed member as Grand Lecturer, to visit the Subordinate Lodges at their request, to teach and instruct them in the Sublime Art, at the expense of the Lodge instructed.

ARTICLE II.

OF THE AUTHORITY AND DUTY OF THE M.: W.: GRAND MASTER.

SECTION 1. The M.: W.: Grand Master shall have power, at any time, to convene the Grand Lodge for the benefit of Masonry.

SEC. 2. The M.: W.: Grand Master shall have power to grant dispensations for new Lodges, in the recess of the Grand Lodge; upon condition that the brethren to whom such dispensation may be granted, make application to the Grand Lodge at their next Grand Annual Communication, for a charter or warrant, and if such application shall not be made, or the charter or warrant not be granted by the Grand Lodge, the Lodge erected by such dispensation shall be dissolved, and the funds and jewels thereof become the property of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 3. The M.: W.: Grand Master shall appoint some suitable member of the Grand Lodge, the Deputy Grand Master, to be commissioned under his hand and seal, and duly installed.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the M.: W.: Grand Master, during his term of service, to visit the several Subordinate Lodges under his jurisdiction, and see that no innovation be committed in the works of Masonry; to teach and instruct them in the laws, usages and customs of the Sublime Art; or to appoint and authorize any skillful and well informed member of the Grand Lodge for that purpose.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of the Grand Master to install his Deputy and other officers of the Grand Lodge, and the officers of Subordinate Lodges; but if it is inconvenient for him to attend in person, he shall have power to appoint under his hand and seal, any suitable Past Master to perform that duty.

ARTICLE III.

OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

SECTION 1. A competent number of Master Masons, of regular standing, upon petition to the Grand Lodge, or Grand Master, shall receive a dispensation authorizing them to congregate and work until the next Grand Annual Communication; for which dispensation the petitioners shall pay into the treasury of the Grand Lodge the sum of twenty dollars, and to the Grand Secretary for his services, the further sum of ten dollars, before the dispensation shall be issued.

SEC. 2. Upon obtaining from the Grand Lodge at their Grand Annual Communication, a charter or warrant, authorizing them to congregate and work as a just and regularly constituted Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, the petitioners shall pay a further sum of twenty dollars, and to the Grand Secretary, for his services, a further sum of ten dollars, before the charter or warrant shall be issued; and no Subordinate Lodge shall confer any other degrees than those of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason; which shall be so expressed in their dispensation, charter or warrant.

SEC. 3. Every Subordinate Lodge shall pay into the treasury of the Grand Lodge, annually, the following contributions: First, for every degree conferred upon candidates the preceding year, the sum of one dollar; for every member, the sum one dollar, annually.

SEC. 4. Every Subordinate Lodge shall be represented in the Grand Lodge by its officers, representatives or proxies, who must be Master Masons, and members of some Lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge; and such appointment, whether of representative or proxies, must be certified by the Secretary, and the seal of the Lodge affixed thereto.

SEC. 5. Every Subordinate Lodge which is not represented in the Grand Lodge for two successive Grand Communications, or is in arrear to the Grand Lodge for the same term of time, shall be suspended from working until they comply with these requisitions; and upon the neglect or refusal of any Subordinate Lodge to comply with the requisitions aforesaid, the Grand Lodge shall notify the delinquent Lodge to comply, as aforesaid, at or before the next Grand Annual Communication, and upon further neglect or refusal of the said delinquent Lodge to comply, agreeably to the notification, the charter or warrant of said Lodge shall be withdrawn.

ARTICLE IV.

OF THE AUTHORITY AND DUTY OF PARTICULAR OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE, AND OTHER PURPOSES.

SECTION 1. The Grand Master, and in his absence the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Senior Warden, and Grand Junior Warden, shall be the Grand Committee of Charity; each of whom shall have authority to draw on the Grand Treasurer for any sum deemed sufficient to relieve a suffering brother, his widow or orphans.

SEC. 2. The aforesaid Grand Officers shall be the Standing Committee of Accounts, and are authorized to settle the contingent expenses of the Grand Lodge, and draw on the Grand Treasurer for the same.

SEC. 3. The Grand Treasurer shall lay a statement of his accounts before the Grand Lodge at their Grand Annual Communication, and in other respects perform his duty as such agreeably to immemorial usage.

SEC. 4. The Grand Secretary shall attend on every assembly of the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Annual Communication, to lay before the Grand Lodge his books in good order, and his papers duly filed, and do the duty of his office agreeably to immemorial usage.

SEC. 5. The Grand Secretary shall receive for his services, twenty-five cents for every hundred words written for the use and under the direction of the Grand Lodge; and for copies from the records, files and proceedings of the Grand Lodge, the sum of twenty-five cents for every hundred words, to be paid by the party applying for the same, dispensations and warrants excepted, they being already provided for; and for affixing the seal of the Grand Lodge to any instrument of writing, the sum of one dollar, to be paid by the party applying.

SEC. 6. But for affixing the seal of the Grand Lodge to any instrument of writing for the use of the Grand Lodge, summons and copies of proceedings and communications sent to foreign Grand Lodges, and such like services the Grand Secretary shall receive no compensation.

SEC. 7. The Grand Secretary shall provide a seal for the Grand Lodge, so soon as convenient, with such device as the Lodge may direct.

SEC. 8. Every member of the Grand Lodge shall pay into the treasury thereof the sum of five dollars, annually, towards defraying the contingent expenses of the same.

SEC. 9. Every member of the Grand Lodge shall be a member of some Sub-

ordinate Lodge, and upon demission, suspension or expulsion from a Subordinate Lodge, the seat of such person in the Grand Lodge becomes *ipso facto* vacated, and his membership ceases; *Provided*, he has not claimed the benefit of, and prosecuted an appeal.

SEC. 10. No officer of any Subordinate Lodge shall resign his office, or demit during the period for which he shall have been elected and installed; every vacancy shall be filled by appointment *pro tempore*, until the regular period of election and installation.

SEC. 11. Whenever the Grand Lodge shall deem it expedient to amend any article or section of this Constitution, the proposed amendment shall be reduced to writing, and committed to record; a copy of which shall be transmitted to every Subordinate Lodge, and laid over for consideration until the next Grand Annual Communication, when if upon investigation, two-thirds of the members of the Grand Lodge shall concur therein, the same shall be considered as a part of this Constitution.

H. TOOLEY, Grand Master.
CHRISTOPHER RANKIN, D. G. M.,
and W. M. Harmony Lodge, No. 33.
ELIJAH SMITH,
for Israel Loring, G. S. W.
E. TURNER, G. J. W.,
and W. M. Andrew Jackson L., No. 15.
H. POSTLETHWAITE, G. T.,
CHILTON F. STILES, G. S.,
and S. W. Harmony Lodge, No. 33.
J. NEWMAN, G. S. and T.,
CHRISTOPHER MILLER, J. W.,
of Harmony Lodge, No. 33.
WOODSON WREN,
proxy for Washington Lodge, No. 17.
GEO. R. WILLIAMS, S. W.,
of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 15.
JOHN CORN, J. W.,
of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 15.
JAMES LOMBARD, P. M.,
of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 15.
ELIJAH SMITH, P. M.,
ROBERT ALEXANDER, P. M.,
GEORGE NEWMAN, P. M.,
STEPHEN CARTER, P. M.,
LEWIS WINSTON, P. M.,
JAMES LOMBARD, P. M.,
ANTHONY CAMPBELL, P. M.,
DAVID MATHEWSON, P. M.

The Committee also reported the following circular, to be addressed to the several Grand Lodges in the United States, which was read and adopted without amendment :

CIRCULAR.

To ————— :

I am instructed to inform you, that a Convention of Masters and Wardens of all the Lodges within this State, together with the Past Masters, agreeable to

previous arrangement, convened at the city of Natchez, on the 27th day of July, A. L., 5818, and, by unanimous consent, established a Grand Lodge for the State of Mississippi.

The privilege of self-government, in every situation, is delightful to the human mind, where the least spark of liberty exists, or hope continues to gild the future prospect. After attaining an equal station in the American Confederacy with the other States composing the Union, it is natural that a desire should prevail among the fraternity to establish their institution in the same independent situation as the government to which they owe allegiance. But this desire alone would not, probably, have produced this measure, had not inconveniences materially affecting the prosperity of our institution, called loudly for remedy. Among these are the following, which we hope the establishment of our Grand Lodge will obviate:

Our Lodges derived their charters from the Grand Lodges of Kentucky and Tennessee. These, from their situation, possessed merely the creating power, while our Lodges, as children, by an untimely stroke bereft of their parents, were suffered to pass along without parental instruction and correction. The right of appeal, indeed, existed in cases of difficulty, but it existed only in name, because of our distance from the parent Grand Lodge, and the almost insuperable difficulties attending its removal and prosecution. We were represented in the Grand Lodges by those whose liberality might prompt them to discharge that duty, but who were necessarily unacquainted with our wants and wishes on all matters appertaining to our local concerns. Our charity funds were not within our control. Whatever difference of opinion might exist among the different Lodges of the State on subjects of Masonry, must remain unsettled, there being no superior tribunal common to them, which could declare the land-marks.

At this period, and with the example of the Lodges of Europe and the United States before us, and the reports of Committees, contained in almost every book of Constitutions, surely we need not cite precedent to justify the measures we have adopted. We are anxious to promote the interests of the craft, and, with that view, we have seized on the example of others in the formation of this institution, but not without deliberation. To our parent Grand Lodges we feel the strongest ties of gratitude, as the parents of our existence, enabling us to diffuse the blessings of our institution, and enjoy social intercourse. Nothing shall tear from us the recollection of the guardian and parental care extended to us in our infant state, while we claim to ourselves the rights of freemen, and of self-government.

It only remains for me to solicit a fraternal intercourse and correspondence with the Grand Lodge of _____ on subjects calculated to promote the interest of Masonry.

The Grand Lodge now being completely organized, Harmony Lodge, No. 33, Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 15, and Washington Lodge, No. 17, by their officers then present, surrendered their respective charters derived from the Grand Lodges of Kentucky and Tennessee, and prayed that charters be granted them severally by this Grand Lodge.

Ordered, That charters be granted to the aforesaid Lodges by the names of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, and Washington Lodge, No. 3. The officers heretofore elected and installed, holding their respective offices until the time of service expires for which they were elected.

Resolved, That one hundred copies of the proceedings of this Convention, and of the Constitution and Circular Address, be printed, and a copy sent to each Grand Lodge in the United States.

The Lodge was then closed in due and solemn form.

ATTEST:

CHILION F. STILES, Grand Secretary.

Natchez, 25th August, A. L. 5818.

FIRST ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1819.

NATCHEZ, January 4, 1819.

Grand Lodge opened in due form.

PRESENT :

M. W. HENRY TOOLEY	Grand Master.
R. W. CHRISTOPHER RANKIN	Deputy Grand Master.
W. ISRAEL LORING	Grand Senior Warden.
W. EDWARD TURNER	Grand Junior Warden.
HENRY POSTLETHWAITE	Grand Treasurer.
CHILION F. STILES	Grand Secretary.
CHRISTOPHER MILLER	Grand Senior Deacon.
DAVID MATHEWSON	Grand Jun. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JOSEPH NEWMAN	Grand Steward & Tyler.

PAST MASTERS AND REPRESENTATIVES.

Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2—Stephen Carter, James Lombard, Past Masters.
Harmony Lodge, No. 1—Christopher Rankin, w. m., Henry Postlethwaite, s. w.
Andrew Jackson, No. 2—Edward Turner, w. m., James Lombard, s. w.
Stephen Carter, J. w.
Washington, No. 3—Israel Loring, w. m.

VISITORS.

Past Masters—Bros. Zalmon; McCarstle, Geo. Meller, Bela Metcalfe, Joseph E. Davis, Edward Broughton.

Brothers—Jonathan N. Robinson and Woodson Wren.

The Grand Lodge was opened in the Third Degree of Masonry, and proceeded to business.

On petition of Edward Broughton, Joseph E. Davis, W. W. Walker, George Meller and Bela Metcalfe, for membership, a ballot was severally taken, and found unanimous in their favor.

On motion,

Ordered, That a Committee of Accounts, a Committee on Petitions and Grievances, and a Committee to examine visiting brethren, be appointed.

Bros. James Lombard and Christopher Miller, were appointed a Committee of Accounts.

Bros. Bela Metcalfe, George Mellor and Edward Broughton, a Committee of Petitions and Grievances.

Bros. Joseph E. Davis and Henry Postlethwaite, a Committee to Examine Visiting Brethren.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Grand Lodge proceed to elect the officers for the ensuing twelve months.

On counting the ballots, Bro. Christopher Rankin was chosen Grand Master, and was pleased to appoint R. W. Henry Postlethwaite, Deputy Grand Master.

Ballot being taken for the other officers, it was found that the following brethren were elected, and then proclaimed, viz :

W. : ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Senior Warden.
W. : EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Junior Warden.
ELIJAH SMITH.....	Grand Treasurer.
BELA METCALFE.....	Grand Secretary.
JOSEPH E. DAVIS.....	Grand Marshal.
EDWARD BROUGHTON.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
W. W. WALKER.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward & Tyler.
DAVID MATHEWSON.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
GEORGE MELLOR.....	Grand Pursuivant.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 7 o'clock, P. M., Tuesday, 5th inst.

ATTEST :

CHILION F. CHILES, Grand Secretary.

TUESDAY, January 5, 1819.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. : W. : HENRY TOOLEY.....	Grand Master.
R. : W. : CHRISTOPHER RANKIN.....	Deputy Grand Master.
ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Senior Warden.
EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Junior Warden.
HENRY POSTLETHWAITE.....	Grand Treasurer.
BELA METCALFE.....	Grand Secretary, <i>p. t.</i>
JAMES LOMBARD.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
STEPHEN CARTER.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward & Tyler.

Past Masters—W. W. Walker, Edward Broughton, J. E. Davis and George Mellor.

Masters Visiting—W. Wren, Z. McCarstle and D. J. Cochran.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the installation of the M. : W. : Christopher Rankin, Grand Master elect, who, on being duly installed and conducted to the chair, installed R. : W. : Henry Postlethwaite, Deputy Grand

FIRST ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1819.

NATCHEZ, January 4, 1819.

Grand Lodge opened in due form.

PRESENT :

M. W. HENRY TOOLEY.....	Grand Master.
R. W. CHRISTOPHER RANKIN.....	Deputy Grand Master.
W. ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Senior Warden.
W. EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Junior Warden.
HENRY POSTLETHWAITE.....	Grand Treasurer.
CHILION F. STILES.....	Grand Secretary.
CHRISTOPHER MILLER.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
DAVID MATHEWSON.....	Grand Jun. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward & Tyler.

PAST MASTERS AND REPRESENTATIVES.

Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2—Stephen Carter, James Lombard, Past Masters.
Harmony Lodge, No. 1—Christopher Rankin, w. m., Henry Postlethwaite, s. w.
Andrew Jackson, No. 2—Edward Turner, w. m., James Lombard, s. w.,
 Stephen Carter, j. w.
Washington, No. 3—Israel Loring, w. m.

VISITORS.

Past Masters—Bros. Zalmon; McCarstle, Geo. Meller, Bela Metcalfe, Joseph E. Davis, Edward Broughton.

Brothers—Jonathan N. Robinson and Woodson Wren.

The Grand Lodge was opened in the Third Degree of Masonry, and proceeded to business.

On petition of Edward Broughton, Joseph E. Davis, W. W. Walker, George Meller and Bela Metcalfe, for membership, a ballot was severally taken, and found unanimous in their favor.

On motion,

Ordered, That a Committee of Accounts, a Committee on Petitions and Grievances, and a Committee to examine visiting brethren, be appointed.

Bros. James Lombard and Christopher Miller, were appointed a Committee of Accounts.

Bros. Bela Metcalfe, George Mellor and Edward Broughton, a Committee of Petitions and Grievances.

Bros. Joseph E. Davis and Henry Postlethwaite, a Committee to Examine Visiting Brethren.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Grand Lodge proceed to elect the officers for the ensuing twelve months.

On counting the ballots, Bro. Christopher Rankin was chosen Grand Master, and was pleased to appoint R.: W.: Henry Postlethwaite, Deputy Grand Master.

Ballot being taken for the other officers, it was found that the following brethren were elected, and then proclaimed, viz :

W.: ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Senior Warden.
W.: EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Junior Warden.
ELIJAH SMITH.....	Grand Treasurer.
BELA METCALFE.....	Grand Secretary.
JOSEPH E. DAVIS.....	Grand Marshal.
EDWARD BROUGHTON.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
W. W. WALKER.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward & Tyler.
DAVID MATHEWSON.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
GEORGE MELLOR.....	Grand Pursuivant.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 7 o'clock, p. M., Tuesday, 5th inst.

ATTEST :

CHILION F. CHILES, Grand Secretary.

TUESDAY, January 5, 1819.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M.: W.: HENRY TOOLEY.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.: CHRISTOPHER RANKIN.....	Deputy Grand Master.
ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Senior Warden.
EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Junior Warden.
HENRY POSTLETHWAITE.....	Grand Treasurer.
BELA METCALFE.....	Grand Secretary, <i>p. t.</i>
JAMES LOMBARD.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
STEPHEN CARTER.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward & Tyler.

Past Masters—W. W. Walker, Edward Broughton, J. E. Davis and George Mellor.

Masters Visiting—W. Wren, Z. McCarstle and D. J. Cochran.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the installation of the M.: W.: Christopher Rankin, Grand Master elect, who, on being duly installed and conducted to the chair, installed R.: W.: Henry Postlethwaite, Deputy Grand

Master ; Israel Loring, Grand Senior Warden ; Edward Turner, Grand Junior Warden ; Bela Metcalfe, Grand Secretary ; Joseph E. Davis, Grand Marshal ; George Mellor, Grand Pursuivant ; Edward Broughton, Grand Senior Deacon ; William W. Walker, Grand Junior Deacon.

The Grand Lodge finding it inconvenient to progress further in business, on account of the Subordinate Lodges failing to make their returns, adjourned until the last Monday in February next, to allow time for making all due returns.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary do give timely notice of the adjourned meeting, to the Subordinate Lodges under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and to the members thereof, in one of the public newspapers printed in the city of Natchez.

ATTEST :

BELA METCALFE, Grand Secretary.

EMERGENT COMMUNICATION.

NATCHEZ, February 3, 1819

PRESENT :

M. W. CHRISTOPHER RANKIN.....Grand Master.
 R. W. HENRY POSTLETHWAITE.....Deputy Grand Master.
 W. JAMES KEMPE.....Grand Sen. Warden, *p. t.*
 W. EDWARD TURNER.....Grand Junior Warden
 BELA METCALFE.....Grand Secretary.
 BARNET WILLIAMS.....Grand Treasurer, *p. t.*
 EDWARD BROUGHTON.....Grand Senior Deacon
 STEPHEN CARTER.....Grand Jun. Deacon, *p. t.*
 JOSEPH NEWMAN.....Grand Steward & Tyler

Past Master—John L. Buck.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges:

From No. 1—C. Rankin and H. Postlethwaite.

2—E. Turner.

3—J. L. Buck, J. Kempe and B. Williams.

Visitors—Bros. John Lombard, Fountain Winston, Walter M. Leake, J. D. Cochran, George R. Williams, W. Winston, Platt Baylis, Woodson Wrenn, Arthur Brown, Nicholas Gray, G. H. Hunter, James Foster and John Foster.

This M. W. Lodge was opened, according to the Ancient Form, in the Third Degree of Masonry ; when the M. W. Grand Master stated the objects contemplated by the Convocation of this Grand Lodge, and thereupon Bela Metcalfe, Grand Secretary, moved the adoption of the following resolution, which being seconded by James Kempe, Past Master, was unanimously approved, as follows :

1. *Resolved*, That for the purpose of carrying into effect an Act of the General As-

sembly of this State, incorporating this Grand Lodge, that Israel Loring, Edward Turner, Elijah Smith, Christopher Rankin, James Kempe, William E. Lehman, Henry Postlethwaite, Barnet Williams and Josiah H. McComas be appointed Managers, who, or a majority of them, are authorized to prepare the Scheme of a Lottery, to raise the sum allowed by law, to have tickets printed; to publish and circulate the said tickets and scheme, with such an explanation as they may deem necessary and proper to promote the objects contemplated by said Lottery; to select, treat for, purchase and accept, a conveyance to such lot or parcel of ground in this city, as may, in the opinion of said Managers, be convenient and suitable for the site of a Masonic edifice; and generally to do every other act, matter or thing to carry into complete effect the objects of their appointment.

2. *Resolved*, That the said managers, or a majority of them may, if they think proper, appoint any one or more of their number, to transact any business appertaining to the management of said lottery, and to do generally any and every other act which the said managers, or a majority of them, may do, by virtue of their appointment.

The Grand Lodge having gone through the business before them, was closed in ample form and harmony.

ATTEST:

BELA METCALFE, Grand Secretary.

"ADJOURNED" COMMUNICATION.

NATCHEZ, February 22d, 1819.

PRESENT:

M. W. CHRISTOPHER RANKIN.....Grand Master.
 R. W. HENRY POSTLETHWAITE.....Deputy Grand Master.
 W. ELIJAH SMITH.....Grand Sen. Warden, *p. t.*
 W. EDWARD TURNER.....Grand Junior Warden.
 EDWARD BROUGHTON.....Grand Senior Deacon.
 STEPHEN CARTER.....Grand Junior Deacon.
 JOSEPH NEWMAN.....Grand Steward & Tyler.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

From No. 1—C. Rankin, H. Postlethwaite, E. Smith.

2—E. Turner, S. Carter.

3—J. Kempe, E. Smith, proxies.

Visitors—Bros. John F. Carmichael, James Dunlap, James Kempe.

This M. W. Grand Lodge was opened according to Ancient Form in the Third Degree of Masonry, and there being no constitutional representation from the Subordinate Lodges, the Grand Lodge adjourned from day to day until February 25th, on which day it "adjourned *sine die*."

ATTEST:

JAMES DUNLAP, Secretary, *p. t.*

SECOND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1820.

NATCHEZ, January 3d, 1820.

PRESENT :

M. W. ISRAEL LORING	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
W. EDWARD TURNER	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
W. WOODSON WREN	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
BELA METCALFE	Grand Secretary.
CLAUDIUS GIBSON	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
EBENEZER HOWELL	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
GEORGE MELLOR	Grand Steward & Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

Past Grand Officer—Henry Tooley, Past Grand Master.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

- From No. 1—Henry Tooley, Woodson Wren.
2—Edward Turner.
3—Claudius Gibson, James Hughes.

Visitors—Bro. Walter M. Leake.

This M. W. Grand Lodge was opened according to Ancient Form in the Third Degree of Masonry; not being present a sufficient number of the members, the Grand Lodge then adjourned until the following day, at half-past six o'clock, P. M.

NATCHEZ, January 4, 1820.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. W. ISRAEL LORING	Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
W. EDWARD TURNER	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
W. WOODSON WREN	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
ANTHONY CAMPBELL	Grand Treasurer, <i>p. t.</i>
BELA METCALFE	Grand Secretary.
JAMES LOMBARD	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
STEPHEN CARTER	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
HENRY TOOLEY	Grand Orator and Lecturer.
JOSEPH NEWMAN	Grand Steward and Tyler.
GEORGE MELLOR	Grand Pursuivant.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges:

- From No. 1—Henry Tooley, Woodson Wren, James Foster.
 2—Edward Turner, James Lombard, Stephen Carter.
 3—Israel Loring, Claudius Gibson, James Hughes.

Member—George R. Williams.

Visitors—Bros. Jacob Eiler, Samuel Eastman, Jonathan N. Robinson, Joshua C. Bond, John Lombard, James Dalrymple, John Glover.

Bro. Grand Treasurer moved that the Grand Secretary be requested to read, for the information of the brethren, the proceedings of the Grand Lodge at the last Grand Annual Communication, and also, that he be requested to read the By-Laws.

The said proceedings and By-Laws were read.

The Representatives from Lodges Nos. 1 and 2, not having certificates in form made out, of their right to take their seats as such,

On motion of Bro. S. G. Warden, the following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, It appears from the disease which prevailed during the fall months of the past year, in the city of Natchez, that Harmony Lodge, No. 1, and Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, were unable to work in safety, and did not work from the month of August, to the month of December; and,

WHEREAS, The late Secretary of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, departed this life during the prevailing sickness, and his place was not filled until the 27th of December last, by which casualties and calamities, the regular returns from those Lodges are not ready to be rendered at this time; and,

WHEREAS, The records of said Lodges are now present and ready to be produced; therefore,

Resolved, That those records be referred to for information for the present, who are the proper representatives of those Lodges, and that the further time of one day be allowed them to make their returns, produce their certificates and pay their dues.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do proceed to the election of Grand Officers for the next year.

A ballot was then taken, and on counting the ballots, Edward Turner having a majority of votes, was declared duly elected Grand Master; and who then appointed Bro. Henry Tooley, R. W. Deputy Grand Master.

Ballots being taken for the other officers, it was found that the following brethren were elected, and then proclaimed, viz:

W. ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Senior Warden.
W. BELA METCALFE.....	Grand Jun. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
JAMES FOSTER.....	Grand Treasurer.
WOODSON WREN.....	Grand Secretary.
ANTHONY CAMPBELL.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES LOMBARD.....	Grand Marshal.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward & Tyler.
GEORGE MELLOR.....	(Grand S. Bearer and Pursuivant.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bro. George R. Williams Grand Senior Deacon, and the W. Grand Senior Warden appointed Bro. Stephen Carter Grand Junior Deacon.

On motion,

Resolved, That this M. W. Grand Lodge do adjourn until to-morrow at half-past six o'clock, P. M.

ATTEST:

BELA METCALFE, Grand Secretary.

NATCHEZ, January 5, 1820.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

M. W. ISRAEL LORING.....Grand Master, *p. t.*
 W. EDWARD TURNER.....Grand Senior Warden, *p. t.*
 W. WOODSON WREN.....Grand Junior Warden, *p. t.*
 BELA METCALFE.....Grand Secretary.
 JAMES LOMBARD.....Grand Senior Deacon, *p. t.*
 STEPHEN CARTER.....Grand Junior Deacon.
 HENRY TOOLEY.....Grand Orator and Lecturer.
 JOSEPH NEWMAN.....Grand Steward and Tyler.

Visitors—Bros. Arthur Brown, John Glover, Walter M. Leake, Jacob Eiler.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges:

From No. 1—Henry Tooley, Woodson Wren, James Foster.
 2—Edward Turner, Stephen Carter, James Lombard.
 3—Israel Loring.

The M. W. Grand Lodge then proceeded to install their officers elect, who took their stations accordingly.

On motion, the following Committees were appointed:

Bros. Israel Loring and James Foster, Committee of Accounts.

Bros. Henry Tooley and Stephen Carter, Committee of Petitions and Grievances.

Harmony Lodge, No. 1, Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, and Washington Lodge, No. 3, surrendered their charters and requested others to issue, printed on parchment, which is ordered to be done, and attested by the present Secretary, in this date.

The account of Marschalk and Evans, and R. C. Laufdon, were presented, and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

Resolved, That the Treasurer pay to Edward Turner thirty dollars, for a seal for this Lodge.

Ordered, That the printed Charter, now in use, be spread on these records, as a standing form for the future, which is in the form following:

“SIT LUX ET LUX FUIT.”

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, to all Free and Accepted Masons, Send Greeting:

KNOW YE, That on the application of our well-beloved brethren, ———, and several other brethren at or near ———, in the State of ———, the said Grand Lodge do hereby constitute the said brethren into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons; to be opened at ———, by the name of ———: And do further, on the said application, and of the great trust and confidence reposed in the said three brethren, hereby appoint ———,

Master; ———, Senior Warden, and ———, Junior Warden, for opening said Lodge, and for such further time only as may be thought proper by the brethren thereof: It being the will of the said Grand Lodge that this, their appointment, shall, in no wise, affect any future elections of officers of that Lodge; but that the same shall be according to the regulations of the Lodge, and consistent with the general laws of the society, contained in the Book of Constitutions. And the said Grand Lodge do hereby require you, the said ———, to take special care that all of the said brethren are, or have been, regularly made Masons, and that they do perform, observe and keep, all the rules and orders contained in the Book of Constitutions, and also such as may, from time to time, be transmitted to you from this Grand Lodge: And further, That you do, from time to time, cause to be entered, in a book to be kept for that purpose, an account of your proceedings in the Lodge, together with such regulations as shall be made for the proper government thereof; a copy of your proceedings you are, in no wise, to omit to lay before the Grand Lodge once in every year, together with a list of the members of your Lodge: That you annually pay into the Grand Treasury such contributions to the Grand Charity, and such other sums of money as may, by the Constitution and Laws of the Grand Lodge, be required of you. *Provided*, That you do confer by authority thereof, no other Degrees than those of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason.

In full faith and testimony whereof, the Grand Lodge have caused their Grand Seal of Masonry to be affixed to these presents, and to be attested by their Grand Secretary, at Natchez, this — day of ———, Anno Lucis, A. D., 18—.

ATTEST :

On motion,

Resolved, That this M. W. Grand Lodge do adjourn till to-morrow at half-past six o'clock, P. M.

ATTEST :

WOODSON WREN, Grand Secretary.

NATCHEZ, January 6, 1820.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. W. EDWARD TURNER.....Grand Master.
 R. W. HENRY TOOLEY.....Deputy Grand Master.
 W. ISRAEL LORING.....Grand Senior Warden.
 W. BELA METCALFE.....Grand Junior Warden.
 JAMES FOSTER.....Grand Treasurer.
 WOODSON WREN.....Grand Secretary.
 GEORGE R. WILLIAMS.....Grand Senior Deacon.
 STEPHEN CARTER.....Grand Junior Deacon.
 JAMES LOMBARD.....Grand Marshal.
 GEORGE MELLOR.....Grand S. B. and Pursuivant.
 JOSEPH NEWMAN.....Grand Steward and Tyler.

Visiting Brethren—John Glover, Ebenezer Howell, James Dalrymple and James R. Perkins.

Present also, the same Representatives of Subordinate Lodges as last evening.

The M. W. Grand Master proceeded to install our brother, Henry Tooley, as D. G. M.

The account of Richard C. Langdon, for thirty-six dollars and fifty cents, was allowed and ordered to be paid by the Grand Treasurer.

Also the account of Joseph Newman, for sixteen dollars and twenty-five cents.

Also the account of Bela Metcalfe, for four dollars and two cents.

A communication from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky was received, read, and ordered to be entered in full upon the minutes of this Lodge, which is in the words and figures following, to-wit :

"At a Grand Communication of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Kentucky, held at the Masons' Hall, in the town of Lexington, September 2d, A. L. 5819, A. D. 1819 :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will be pleased at all times, to reciprocate the same fraternal correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, which it has heretofore maintained with other Grand Lodges, and that the Grand Secretary be directed to communicate this resolution to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

A true copy from the Records.

THO. W. BARR, Grand Secretary.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this Grand Lodge be printed, and that the Grand Secretary cause the same to be done.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, having gone through the business before them, was closed in ample form and due harmony.

ATTEST :

WOODSON WREN, Grand Secretary.

THIRD ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1821.

NATCHEZ, Monday, January 1, 1821.

PRESENT.

M. W. EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Master.
R. W. HENRY TOOLEY.....	Deputy Grand Master.
W. ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Senior Warden.
W. JAMES LOMBARD.....	Grand Junior Warden.
GEORGE R. WILLIAMS.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
STEPHEN CARTER.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JAMES FOSTER.....	Grand Treasurer.
WOODSON WREN.....	Grand Secretary.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Members—Henry Postlethwaite, Elijah Smith, William W. Walker.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

From No. 1—Henry Tooley, Woodson Wren.

2—James Lombard, George R. Williams.

3—Israel Loring, Henry G. Johnson, James Hughes.

Warren Lodge, working under dispensation : James Whitehead, deputed by the Lodge.

Visitors—B. C. Barry, — Brown, James Berthe, Adam Cloud, John Foster, Joseph B. Lyons, Walter Leake, Andrew Marschalk, Samuel Moreton, George Newman, Robert Parkinson.

The Grand Lodge was opened in the third degree of Masonry.

The petition of Warren Lodge, working under a dispensation, was presented, praying a charter, which was granted, and the Lodge to be called Warren Lodge, No. 4, in the town of Greenville, in Jefferson county, in this State.

A petition was presented from several brethren of the town of Columbus, paying a dispensation, which prayer was granted, and the Lodge to be called Columbus Lodge, in said town.

Bros. Henry Tooley, Stephen Carter and James Lombard were appointed a committee to examine the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer, Secretary and Steward ; to examine visiting brethren, and make reports on complaints and appeals, and give their opinions on all questions and matters submitted to the Grand Lodge for investigation.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to elect the Grand Officers for the ensuing

twelve months; when the following brethren were found duly elected, to-wit:

EDWARD TURNER	M. W. Grand Master.
HENRY TOOLEY	{ Grand Senior Warden and Grand Lecturer.
JAMES LOMBARD.....	Grand Junior Warden.
HENRY POSTLETHWAITE.....	Grand Treasurer.
WOODSON WREN.....	Grand Secretary.
JOSEPH E. DAVIS.....	Grand Orator.
WILLIAM W. WALKER.....	Grand Marshal.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.
HENRY G. JOHNSON.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
JAMES HUGHES.....	Grand Pursuivant.

Bro. Israel Loring was appointed R. W. D. G. M.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Committee of Accounts, appointed for the last year, be discharged, and that Bros. Henry Poslethwaite and James Lombard be appointed in their place for the ensuing year.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until the following day at half-past six o'clock, P. M.

ATTEST: WOODSON WREN, Grand Secretary.

NATCHEZ, January 2, 1821.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

M. W. EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Master.
R. W. HENRY TOOLEY.....	Deputy Grand Master.
W. ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Senior Warden.
W. JAMES LOMBARD.....	Grand Junior Warden, p. t.
WOODSON WREN.....	Grand Secretary.
GEORGE R. WILLIAMS.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
STEPHEN CARTER.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Present, the same Representatives of Subordinate Lodges as last evening, with the addition of Bro. John Glover, J. W. of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2.

Visiting Brethren—James Berthe, — Carter, Jacob Eiler, Joseph B. Lyons, John S. Stutson, P. A. Vandorn.

Member—Joseph E. Davis.

When the officers elect were regularly installed according to Ancient usage, in Masonic form, and took their stations, except the Grand Treasurer, who was absent.

Then the M. W. Grand Master withdrew, and the chair was occupied by the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Henry Tooley.

The account of James Hughes, for printing, was presented and referred to the Committee of Accounts.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge then closed to meet on the following day at seven o'clock, P. M.

ATTEST: WOODSON WREN, Grand Secretary.

NATCHEZ, January 3, 1821.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

R. W. HENRY TOOLEY.....	D. G. M., in Chair.
W. JAMES LOMBARD.....	Grand Sen. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
W. JOSEPH E. DAVIS.....	Grand Jun. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
HENRY POSTLETHWAITE.....	Grand Treasurer.
WOODSON WREN.....	Grand Secretary.
GEORGE R. WILLIAMS.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
STEPHEN CARTER.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward & Tyler.

Lodges represented as last night, except Washington Lodge, by Henry G. Johnson alone.

Visiting Brethren—Joseph Bombush, Cowles Mead, Peter A. Vandorn, James Berthe, Robert Parkinson, W. Van Allen, Arthur Brown, John Bailey, George Harmon, James J. Rowan.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in the Third Degree of Masonry, according to Ancient form.

The M. W. Grand Master appeared and took his seat, and the Wardens took their stations.

Resolved, That the Managers of the Lottery for the erection of a Masonic Hall, for the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, or a majority of them, be authorized to make sale of the said privilege granted by an Act of the General Assembly of the State aforesaid, for the best price that can be procured, and that they be authorized to appoint such agent or agents, as they may deem necessary, with full and ample power to effect said object.

Ballots were then taken for the election of a Manager of the aforesaid Lottery, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Bro. James Kempe, when Bro. Joseph E. Davis was declared duly elected.

Resolved, That the three principal officers of the Grand Lodge examine the several communications addressed to it, within the last twelve months, and report what part thereof should, in their opinion, be entered on the minutes.

Resolved, That when this Grand Lodge closes, it shall close to meet again on the first Monday in February next.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was then closed in Ancient and Ample Form, and in due harmony.

ATTEST:

WOODSON WREN, Grand Secretary.

"ADJOURNED" COMMUNICATION.

NATCHEZ, February 5th, 1821.

PRESENT :

M. W. EDWARD TURNER.....Grand Master.
 W. HENRY TOOLEY.....Grand Senior Warden, *p. t.*
 W. JAMES LOMBARD.....Grand Junior Warden.
 THO. F. MCKAY.....Grand Senior Deacon, *p. t.*
 WILLIAM HARPER.....Grand Junior Deacon, *p. t.*
 WOODSON WREN.....Grand Secretary.
 JAMES R. PERKINS.....Grand Steward & Tyler, *p. t.*

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges:

From No. 1—Henry Tooley, W. M.; W. Wren, S. W.
 2—James Lombard, W. M.
 4—Thomas F. McKay, W. M.; William Harper, S. W.; Thomas
 Hinds, J. W.

Visiting Brother—Cowles Mead.

A petition was presented from several brethren of St. Stephens, praying a warrant of Constitution, which was referred to the M. W. Grand Master, to be acted upon during the recess of the Grand Lodge.

The M. W. Grand Lodge then adjourned till Thursday evening at 7 o'clock.

ATTEST : WOODSON WREN, Grand Secretary.

NATCHEZ, February 8, 1821.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. W. HENRY TOOLEY.....Grand Master, *p. t.*
 W. JAMES LOMBARD.....Grand Sen. Warden, *p. t.*
 W. WILLIAM HARPER.....Grand Jun. Warden, *p. t.*
 HENRY POSTLETHWAITE.....Grand Treasurer.
 WOODSON WREN.....Grand Secretary.
 GEORGE R. WILLIAMS.....Grand Senior Deacon.
 STEPHEN CARTER.....Grand Jun. Deacon, *p. t.*
 JOSEPH E. DAVIS.....Grand Orator.
 WILLIAM W. WALKER.....Grand Marshal.
 JAMES R. PERKINS.....Grand S. and Tyler, *p. t.*

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges:

No. 1—Henry Tooley, Woodson Wren, J. E. Davis.
 2—James Lombard.
 3—Henry G. Johnson.
 4—William Harper.

Visiting Brethren—James Foster, Luther Boyden, Jas. R. Whitney, William

E. Lehman, B. C. Barry, John S. Stutson, — Emerson, — Taylor, Arthur Brown, — Hines, Francis B. Lanoir.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to business.

Bro. James J. Rowan's petition for membership, presented by Bro. Wren, and seconded by Bro. Davis, and on ballots being taken, he was found unanimously elected.

The M.: W.: Edward Turner, Grand Master, appeared and took the chair, and the Wardens took their stations.

Resolved, That Bro. Edward Turner and Woodson Wren be and they are hereby appointed a Committee for the purpose of making out such part of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge as they may deem necessary for publication, and also to contract for the printing of such number of copies as they may deem proper, and cause the same to be distributed.

The question was taken whether Bro. James Foster, being a Past Master by degree, and having been elected Grand Treasurer, in consequence of his being Junior Warden, representing Harmony Lodge, No. 1, is, by virtue of his situation, a member of this Lodge? And it was determined in the negative.

Bro. James Foster then presented his petition for membership, and was unanimously elected.

Resolved, That Bro. Joseph E. Davis, Henry Postlethwaite and Henry Tooley be appointed a Committee to revise the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and make report to the next Annual Communication.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge then closed in Ancient and ample form and in due harmony.

ATTEST :

WOODSON WREN, Grand Secretary.

FOURTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1822.

NATCHEZ, Monday January 7, 1822.

Grand Lodge opened in due form.

PRESENT :

M.: W.: ISRAEL LORING.....Grand Master, *p. t.*
R.: W.: HENRY TOOLEY.....D. G. M. & S. W., *p. t.*
W.: JOSEPH E. DAVIS.....Grand Jun. Warden.
GEORGE R. WILLIAMS.....Grand Senior Deacon.
STEPHEN CARTER.....Grand Junior Deacon.
HENRY POSTLETHWAITE.....Grand Treasurer.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....Grand Secretary, *p. t.*
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....Grand Steward and Tyler.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

No. 1—Joseph E. Davis, W. Wren, Fountain Winston.
2—Robert Parkinson, Arthur Brown, Sam. Moreton.
5—William Cocke.
6—Ben. F. Palmer, J. Y. Smith, John Dillahunt.

Visiting Brethren—George W. Grant, William W. Walker, Wm. E. Lehman, Erich H. Miller, Charles Little, J. C. Copeland, Abner Young.

This M.: W.: Grand Lodge was opened according to Ancient Form in the Third Degree of Masonry.

The M.: W.: Grand Master appointed Bros. Postlethwaite and Parkinson a Committee to examine the reports from the different Subordinate Lodges, and Bros. Tooley and Parkinson were appointed to examine the Secretary's books and accounts.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge then adjourned till to-morrow at seven o'clock,
P. M. ATTEST: WOODSON WREN, Grand Secretary.

NATCHEZ, January 8, 1822.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M.: W.: ISRAEL LORING.....Grand Master, *p. t.*
R.: W.: HENRY TOOLEY.....Deputy G. M. and S. W. *p. t.*

W.: JOSEPH E. DAVIS.....	Grand Junior Warden, p. 4.
HENRY POSTLETHWAITE.....	Grand Treasurer.
WOODSON WREN.....	Grand Secretary.
GEO. R. WILLIAMS.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
STEPHEN CARTER.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward & Tyler.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

- No. 1—Joseph E. Davis, Woodson Wren.
- No. 2—Robert Parkinson, Arthur Brown, Sam. Moreton.
- No. 3—Israel Loring, James Cornell.
- No. 4—Nathaniel Ives.
- No. 5—William Cocke.
- No. 6—Ben. F. Palmer, J. Y. Smith, John Dillahunt.

Members—James Foster, Elijah Smith.

Visiting Brethren—John Foster, William E. Lehman, Joseph B. Lyons, Chas. Little, Erich H. Miller, Andrew Marschalk, Robert Stewart, Abner Young.

The petition of Asylum Lodge, No. 6, praying for a charter, was presented and read.

Ordered, That a charter be issued for said Lodge, agreeably to the prayer of the petition.

The proceedings of the Subordinate Lodges, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, were examined by the Committee, approved and ordered to be filed.

The petitions of Bros. William Harper and Benjamin F. Palmer, were presented for membership, and a ballot being taken, they were unanimously elected and installed.

On motion,

Resolved, That this M.: W.: Grand Lodge go into an election for officers for the ensuing twelve months.

A ballot was then taken, and on counting the ballots, Bro. Israel Loring having a majority of votes, was declared duly elected M.: W.: Grand Master, and who then appointed Bro. Henry Tooley R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master.

Ballots being then taken for the other officers, it was found that the following Brethren were elected, and then proclaimed, viz :

W.: JOSEPH E. DAVIS.....	Grand Senior Warden.
W.: ROBERT PARKINSON.....	Grand Junior Warden.
HENRY POSTLETHWAITE.....	Grand Treasurer.
WOODSON WREN.....	Grand Secretary.
STEPHEN CARTER.....	Grand Pursuivant.
EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES FOSTER.....	Grand Marshal.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward & Tyler.

The M.: W.: Grand Master then appointed Bro. Nathaniel Ives, Grand Senior Deacon, and the W.: Grand Senior Warden, appointed Bro. Benjamin F. Palmer, Grand Junior Deacon.

The account of James Hughs, for printing, amounting to seventy-five dollars, was presented, allowed, and ordered to be paid by the Grand Treasurer.

On motion,

Resolved, That this M.: W.: Grand Lodge do adjourn till to-morrow half past six o'clock, P. M.

ATTEST :

WOODSON WREN, Grand Secretary.

NATCHEZ, January 9, 1822.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. W. ISRAEL LORING.....Grand Master.
 R. W. HENRY TOOLEY.....Deputy Grand Master.
 W. JOSEPH E. DAVIS.....Grand Senior Warden.
 W. ROBERT PARKINSON.....Grand Junior Warden.
 WILLIAM W. WALKER.....Grand Treasurer, *p. t.*
 WOODSON WREN.....Grand Secretary.
 EDWARD TURNER.....Grand Orator.
 ARTHUR BROWN.....Grand Senior Deacon, *p. t.*
 BENJAMIN F. PALMER.....Grand Junior Deacon.
 STEPHEN CARTER.....Grand Pursuivant.
 JOSEPH NEWMAN.....Grand Steward and Tyler.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

From No. 1—Joseph E. Davis, Woodson Wren, F. Winston.

From No. 2—Robert Parkinson, A. Brown, S. Moreton.

From No. 3—Israel Loring.

From No. 6—Benjamin F. Palmer.

Visiting Brethren—John Bailey, Jacob Eiler, Erich H. Miller, Charles Little, Aaron Wagers, Robert Wilson, Justin W. Foote, Simon Nelson, Ezra Farrington, John H. K. Newman, William Hale, James Steele, Isaac C. Copeland.

This M. W. Grand Lodge was opened according to ancient form in the third degree of Masonry.

Resolved, That suitable books be prepared for the Secretary to record the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, and for the Treasurer to keep the accounts of the Grand Lodge with its members, and that the same be paid for out of any monies belonging to the Grand Lodge not otherwise appropriated.

No further business appearing, the M. W. Grand Lodge then closed in Ancient and Ample Form and due harmony.

ATTEST :

WOODSON WREN, Grand Secretary.

FIFTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1823.

PRESENT :

NATCHEZ, Monday, January 6, 1823.

M.: W.: ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.: HENRY TOOLEY.....	Deputy Grand Master.
W.: JOSEPH E. DAVIS.....	Grand Senior Warden.
W.: ROBERT PARKINSON.....	Grand Junior Warden.
WOODSON WREN.....	Grand Secretary.
HENRY POSTLETHWAITE.....	Grand Treasurer.
NATHANIEL IVES.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
FOUNTAIN WINSTON.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

- No. 1—Henry Tooley, Fountain Winston, John A. Quitman.
- No. 2—Josias H. M'Comas, George R. Williams, William M'Dowell.
- No. 3—Israel Loring, James Hughs, B. W. M. Minter.
- No. 4—No return.
- No. 5—Woodson Wren, Grand Secretary, proxy.
- No. 6—William Callaham, George H. Gordon.

Members—Elijah Smith, James Foster, Stephen Carter.

Visiting Brethren—John Andrus, Robert Stewart, Joseph B. Lyons, Sedgwick Marble, Sylvester B. Derby, Henry Millard, James Steen, George Fisher, Bartlet Cox, Willouby L. Pratt, John Tremby, James R. Perkins, Peter C. Brown, William A. Sands, John White, Minor F. Winn, Linneus Dupuy, Samuel Moreton, Andrew Marschalk, Francis Gildart.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge was opened according to ancient form in the third degree of Masonry.

Bro. Henry Tooley was appointed by the M.: W.: Grand Master, to examine the Grand Secretary's books and records.

Bro. Elijah Smith was appointed to examine the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer.

Bros. Josias H. M'Comas and John A. Quitman, to examine visiting brethren.

Bros. Henry Tooley, Henry Postlethwaite and Elijah Smith to make reports on complaints and appeals, and give their opinion on all matters and communications submitted to the Grand Lodge for investigation

The proceedings of Rising Virtue Lodge, working under a dispensation, at Holmeville, Pike county, in this State, were returned, a charter petitioned for, and appointing Bro. Henry Tooley, proxy for the same.

The Grand Lodge was then adjourned until to-morrow evening, 6 o'clock.

ATTEST: • WOODSON WREN, Grand Secretary.

NATCHEZ, January 7, 1823.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. W. ISRAEL LORING.....Grand Master.
 R. W. HENRY TOOLEY.....Deputy Grand Master.
 W. JOSEPH E. DAVIS.....Grand Senior Warden.
 W. ROBERT PARKINSON.....Grand Junior Warden.
 HENRY POSTLETHWAITE.....Grand Treasurer.
 WOODSON WREN.....Grand Secretary.
 NATHANIEL IVES.....Grand Senior Deacon.
 FOUNTAIN WINSTON.....Grand Junior Deacon.
 JOSEPH NEWMAN.....Grand Steward and Tyler.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

No. 1—Henry Tooley, Fountain Winston, John A. Quitman.
 No. 2—Josias H. M'Comas, George R. Williams, William M'Dowell.
 No. 3—Israel Loring, James Hughes, B. W. M. Minter.
 No. 4—No return.
 No. 5—Woodson Wren, Grand Secretary, proxy.
 No. 6—William Callaham, George H. Gordon.

Members—Edward Turner, P. G. M., Elijah Smith, James Foster, Stephen Carter.

Visiting Brethren—Louis Winston, Anthony Ruth, Joseph Y. Smith, Francis Gildart, Peter C. Brown, James W. Miller, William Sands, Robert Haslett, John Keiber, W. L. Pratt, Arthur Brown, Clement W. Burt, Minor F. Winn, John Lombard, Robert Steward, John S. White, Bartlet Cox, James R. Perkins, Samuel Moreton, Henry Millard, William Broadwell, William Parker, William E. Lehman, Linneus Dupuy, Fountain Winston, James J. Rowan.

The petitions of Linneus Dupuy, Fountain Winston and James J. Rowan, for membership, were presented, and upon a ballot being taken thereon, they were found duly elected.

Bro. Henry Tooley, to whom was referred the examination of the Grand Secretary's books and records, reported that he had examined them and found them correct.

Bro. Elijah Smith reported than he had examined the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer, and found them correct.

Bro. Henry Tooley, Elijah Smith and Henry Postlethwaite, reported that

they had taken into consideration the resolution of a number of members of the Society of Free Masons from various parts of the United States, composed of members of Congress and strangers, assembled at the Capitol, in the city of Washington, March 9, 1822; and that in their opinion, it is not expedient for the general interest of Freemasonry, to constitute a General Grand Lodge of the United States. Also, that they had examined the returns of the different Lodges, and with some trifling errors found them correct, and that the prayer of the members of Rising Virtue Lodge, working under dispensation at Holmesville, is reasonable, and ought to be granted, and that a charter issue, according to their request.

The foregoing several reports were concurred in by the Grand Lodge.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was

Resolved, That the three principal officers of the Grand Lodge be, and they are hereby authorized to purchase for the use thereof, any number of tickets in the lottery authorized and now in preparation, for the benefit of the Lodge, not exceeding six thousand dollars, and that tickets be taken and received for and on account of the profit to accrue from said lottery to the Grand Lodge; it was also,

Resolved, That the members of the several Lodges of this State, be, and they are hereby earnestly solicited to use their best endeavors to carry the said lottery into effect.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing resolution be furnished by the Grand Secretary, to the different Lodges of this State, subordinate to this Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to elect the Grand Officers for the ensuing twelve months, when the following brethren were found duly elected, to-wit:

M. W. ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Master.
R. W. HENRY TOOLEY.....	Deputy Grand Master.
W. JOSIAS H. M'COMAS.....	Grand Senior Warden.
W. JOSEPH E. DAVIS.....	Grand Junior Warden.
HENRY POSTLETHWAITE.....	Grand Treasurer.
LINNÆUS DUPUY.....	Grand Secretary.
JOHN Y. SMITH.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
FOUNTAIN WINSTON.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Marshal.
EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Orator.
STEPHEN CARTER.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The M. W. Grand Master Loring was duly installed by Bro. Henry Tooley, Past Grand Master.

The M. W. Grand Master then proceeded to install the other Officers of this Grand Lodge, in ample form.

All but Past Masters having retired, the degree of Past Master was conferred by Bro. Henry Tooley, Deputy Grand Master, on Bro. John Y. Smith, the Master elect of Asylum Lodge, No. 6, to qualify him to govern said Lodge.

The M. W. Grand Lodge having no further business was closed in ancient and ample form, and in due harmony.

ATTEST: LINNÆUS DUPUY, Grand Secretary.

SIXTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1824.

NATCHEZ, Monday, January 5th, 1824.

PRESENT:

M. W. ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Master.
R. W. HENRY TOOLEY.....	Deputy Grand Master.
W. JOSIAS H. MCCOMAS.....	Grand Sen. Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
LINNÆUS DUPUY.....	Grand Secretary.
EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Treasurer, <i>p. t.</i>
JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JAMES CORNELL.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges:

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—John A. Quitman, William W. Walker, Linnæus Dupuy.

Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2—Robert Parkinson, George R. Williams, Samuel Morton.

Washington Lodge, No. 3—Israel Loring, James Cornell, John Taylor.

Warren Lodge, No. 4—William Harper.

Columbus Lodge, No. 5—Linnæus Dupuy, G. S., proxy.

Asylum Lodge, No. 6—No return.

Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 7—No return.

Covington Lodge, Under Dispensation—No return.

Member—Elijah Smith.

Visitors—Robert Wilson, Robert Stewart, Howell Moss, John Forsyth, Horace Gridley, Charles Little, James A. Girault, James R. Perkins, Andrew Marschalk, Joseph Timmons, John Glover, John P. Corson, Aaron Wagner, Minor F. Winn, James Steel, Peter C. Brown, Edward Baimbridge, Anthony Richardson, Abrams Lodge, No. 8, Kentucky; Bernard Le Sage, Friendship Lodge, No. 9, Charleston, S. C.; Asa T. Smith, Rowan Lodge, No. 62, New York.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in Ancient Form.

The M. W. Grand Master proceeded to appoint the following Committees, viz:

Bros. Henry Tooley and Edward Turner to examine the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer.

Bros. Elijah Smith and Josias H. McComas, to examine the books and papers of the Grand Secretary.

Bros. John A. Quitman and William W. Walker, to report on Appeals and Grievances.

Bro. James J. Rowan to examine visiting brethren.

Bro. Henry Tooley presented a petition from Nathaniel Ives, of Warren Lodge, No. 4, for redress of grievance, which was referred to the Committee of Appeals and Grievances.

Upon motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That two managers of the Grand Masonic Hall Lottery be elected to fill the vacancies occasioned by the absence of Bro. William E. Lehman, and death of Bro. Henry Postlethwaite; whereupon ballots were taken and Bros. James Foster and John A. Quitman were elected to fill said vacancies.

The Grand Lodge was then called from labor until to-morrow evening at half-past six o'clock.

ATTEST :

LINNÆUS DUPUY, Grand Secretary.

TUESDAY, January 6, 1824.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge was called to labor at half-past six o'clock.

PRESENT:

M. W. ISRAEL LORING	Grand Master.
R. W. HENRY TOOLEY	Deputy Grand Master.
W. JOSIAS MCCOMAS	Grand Senior Warden.
W. ROBERT PARKINSON	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
LINNÆUS DUPUY	Grand Secretary.
JAMES J. ROWAN	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JOHN A. QUITMAN	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JOSEPH NEWMAN	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges:

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—John A. Quitman, William W. Walker, Linnaeus Dupuy.

Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2—Robert Parkinson, George R. Williams, Samuel Morton.

Washington Lodge, No. 3—Israel Loring, James Cornell, John Taylor.

Warren Lodge, No. 4—William Harper.

Columbus Lodge, No. 5—Linnaeus Dupuy, G. S., proxy.

Asylum Lodge, No. 6—No return.

Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 7—Henry Tooley, Josias H. McComas, proxies.

Covington Lodge, U. D.—Iveson G. Lea, Minor M. Whitney.

Member—Elijah Smith.

Visitors—James Steen, Howell Moss, John C. Paine, James Little, Jacob Tomlinson, James R. Perkins, John Glover, Robert Wilson, Clement McKnitt, Alexander Smith, John W. Trembly, Minor F. Winn, J. W. E. Wallace, William Tabor, No. 2, New York; L. Morton, Phoenix Lodge, No. 11, New York; Asa T. Smith, Rowan Lodge, No. 82, New York; Francis Legere, Marien Lodge, No. 54, Marsailles.

The Committee of Appeals and Grievances made a lengthy report on the appeal of Nathaniel Ives, recommending the case of the petitioner as a proper subject for further investigation.

Bros. Minor M. Whitney and Iveson G. Lea laid before the Grand Lodge a copy of the proceedings of Covington Lodge, working under dispensation, and a petition for a charter for said Lodge.

The Committee, to whom was referred the examination of the Grand Treasurer's books and vouchers, reported that they had performed that duty and find that the books of the late Grand Treasurer shows, in the hand writing of Bro. Henry Postlethwaite, deceased, late Grand Treasurer, that he had received from the Subordinate Lodges and from members of the Grand Lodge, \$576 95½, and that he had paid per vouchers filed, \$135 62½; leaving a balance in his hands of \$441 33.

The Committee further reported that Samuel Postlethwaite, brother of the deceased, has promised and undertaken to pay said balance so soon as the amount can be collected from the estate of the deceased, and if sooner wanted that he will pay it himself.

The Committee further reported that they believed the accounts of the late Treasurer to be correct.

The Committee, to whom was referred the examination of the Grand Secretary's books and papers, reported that they had performed that duty, and that with a few unimportant exceptions, found them correct.

The Committee further reported that, during the recess of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary has, by order of the R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master, granted a dispensation, dated 27th September last, for a new Lodge to be called Covington Lodge, to be holden in the town of Liberty, in the State of Mississippi, which were received.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That a meeting of this Lodge be called to assemble at this place on the first Monday in February next, to hear and try the appeal of Nathaniel Ives, from a decision of Warren Lodge, No. 4.

Bro. Henry Tooley was appointed a Committee to examine the returns of Subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing twelve months, and upon ballots being taken, the following brethren were found duly elected, to-wit:

M.: W.: ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Master.
W.: JOSIAS H. MCCOMAS.....	Grand Senior Warden.
W.: JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Junior Warden.
EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
LINNÆUS DUPUY.....	Grand Secretary.
ROBERT PARKINSON.....	Grand Marshal.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.
SAMUEL MORTON.....	Grand Sword Bearer.

The M.: W.: Grand Master elect, appointed Bro. Elijah Smith Deputy Grand Master, Bro. John Steel, of Warren Lodge, No. No. 4, Grand Senior Deacon, and Bro. Henry Tooley, Grand Lecturer. The W.: Grand Senior Warden appointed Bro. George R. Williams Grand Junior Deacon.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor until to-morrow evening at six o'clock.

ATTEST :

LINNÆUS DUPUY, Grand Secretary.

WEDNESDAY, January 7, 1824.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge was called to labor at six o'clock, p. m.

PRESENT :

M.: W.: ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.: HENRY TOOLEY.....	Deputy Grand Master.
W.: JOSIAS H. MCCOMAS.....	Grand Senior Warden.
W.: ROBERT PARKINSON.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Orator.
LINNÆUS DUPUY.....	Grand Secretary.
JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Representatives from Subordinate Lodges :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—John A. Quitman, Linnæus Dupuy.
Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2—Robert Parkinson, George R. Williams, Samuel Morton.

Washington Lodge, No. 3—Israel Loring, Grand Master.

Warren Lodge, No. 4—No Representative.

Columbus Lodge, No. 5—Linnæus Dupuy, G. S., proxy.

Asylum, No. 6—No return.

Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 7—Henry Tooley, Josias H. McComas, Edward Turner, proxies.

Covington Lodge, U. D.—Minor M. Whitney, Iveson G. Lea.

Member—Edward Broughton.

Visitors—Arthur Brown, George Newman, John Foster, James Foster, James R. Perkins, Robert Stewart, James Steele, Aaron Wager, W. S. Budue, William Parker, John P. Carson, Francis Legere, No. 54, Marsailles; Fountain Perry, Temple Lodge, No. 64; C. C. Stone, — Lodge, St. Stephens, Alabama; Andrew S. Hughes, Nicholas Lodge, No. 65, Kentucky; David L. McChord, St. Johns Lodge, Kentucky.

The Committee to whom was referred the examination of returns to this Lodge, reported that he found the returns correct so far as he had documents before him, and recommended that the prayer of Covington Lodge for a charter be granted, which was concurred in and a charter issued for a Lodge to be holden at the town of Liberty, and county of Amite, State of Mississippi, to be called Covington Lodge, No. 8, nominating Minor M. Whitney, first Master; Eli M. Robinson, first Senior Warden, and John M. Clark, first Junior Warden.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the sum of thirty dollars be allowed to the Tyler of this Grand Lodge, in full compensation for his services in that capacity, at the present Grand Communication.

On motion made by Bro. Tooley, and seconded by Bro. Quitman,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge, in all future publications of its proceedings, omit the publication of the rejected, suspended and expelled members, returned by its Subordinate Lodges, where the cause has not been inimical, inglorious and knowingly in violation of the Land Marks of our Ancient and honorable Order.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to transmit to each Subor-

ordinate Lodge, a copy of this resolution and recommend to them a similar course of forbearance in their subordinate capacity.

The M.: W.: Grand Master elect, was installed by Bro. Henry Tooley, Past Grand Master.

The M.: W.: Grand Master then proceeded to install the other Grand Officers in ample form.

All but Past Masters having retired, the Degree of Past Master was conferred on Bro. Minor M. Whitney to qualify him to govern Covington Lodge, No. 8.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

ATTEST: LINNÆUS DUPUY, Grand Secretary.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

NATCHEZ, Monday, February 2d, 1824.

PRESENT :

M.: W.: ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.: HENRY TOOLEY.....	Deputy Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
W.: JOSIAS H. MCCOMAS.....	Grand Senior Warden.
W.: JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Junior Warden.
EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
LINNÆUS DUPUY.....	Grand Secretary.
ROBERT PARKINSON.....	Grand Marshal.
JOHN STEELE.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
GEORGE R. WILLIAMS.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Member—Fountain Winston.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—John A. Quitman, Linnæus Dupuy.

Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2—Robert Parkinson, George R. Williams.

Washington Lodge, No. 3—Abram K. Shaifer, A. W. Putnam, Peter A. Vandorn.

Warren Lodge, No. 4—William Harper, John Steele, Levi C. Harris.

Columbus Lodge, No. 5—No representation.

Asylum Lodge, No. 6—Benjamin Eccles, Thomas B. G. Hadley.

Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 7—No representation.

Covington Lodge, No. 8—Minor M. Whitney, Eli M. Robinson.

Visitors—Joseph B. Lyons, Howell Moss, Robert Wilson, Minor F. Winn, John Foster, Filmur W. Green, Thomas Baker, John T. Scott, William Roundtree, Joseph White, James Foster, Anthony Richardson, Woodson Wren, John Lombard, James R. Perkins, George Newman, James Carson, Robert Stewart, Nathaniel Ives, Thomas Barnard, Richmond Bledsoe, Andrew S. Hughes, John

P. Carson, John C. Paine, Thos. Atkinson, William Phelps, Fountain Perry, Christopher C. Stone, Robert S. Steel, Edmund Lanier, George Stone.

The Lodge was opened in Ancient and Ample Form.

The return of Asylum Lodge, No. 6, was received.

Bro. Thomas Baker, of Warren Lodge, No. 4, preferred written charges against Bro. Nathaniel Ives, of said Lodge, for gross unmasonic conduct. Bro. Ives made a lengthy defence, also in writing.

All but the members of this Lodge having retired, ballots were taken and the defendant found guilty of the charges preferred against him, by a unanimous ballot, and the sentence of the Grand Lodge is, that he be suspended from the benefits of Masonry for his natural life.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until to-morrow evening at six o'clock.

ATTEST :

LINNÆUS DUPUY, Grand Secretary.

NATCHEZ, February 3, 1824.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge was called to labor at six o'clock, P. M.

PRESENT :

M. W. ISRAEL LORING	Grand Master.
R. W. HENRY TOOLLY	Deputy Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
W. JOSIAS H. MCCOMAS	Grand Senior Warden.
W. JOHN A. QUITMAN	Grand Junior Warden.
JAMES J. ROWAN	Grand Treasurer.
LINNÆUS DUPUY	Grand Secretary.
JOHN STEELE	Grand Senior Deacon.
GEORGE R. WILLIAMS	Grand Junior Deacon.
EDWARD TURNER	Grand Orator.
JOSEPH NEWMAN	Grand Steward and Tyler.
ROBERT PARKINSON	Grand Marshal.

The sentence of this Lodge, in the case of Nathaniel Ives, was read in open Lodge.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary furnish Doctor Nathaniel Ives with a certified copy of his sentence.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That the sentence of this Lodge be published by the Grand Secretary, in the newspapers of this city, and that he request editors throughout the United States (friendly to the Craft) to give the same one insertion in their papers.

On motion made and seconded,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to draft a form of returns to this Lodge and that the Grand Secretary be required to forward to each Subordinate Lodge a copy of the same, requiring them to conform therewith in future returns to this Lodge.

Bros. Henry Tooley and John A. Quitman were appointed the Committee.

Resolved, That one hundred copies of the minutes of this Lodge at its present session and of the session in January last, be printed and distributed among the several Grand Lodges of the United States and to the several Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, and that a Committee be appointed to carry this resolution into effect.

Bro. Henry Tooley was appointed as that Committee.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form.

ATTEST :

LINNÆUS DUPUY, Grand Secretary.

SEVENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1825.

NATCHEZ, January 3, 1825.

PRESENT :

M. W. ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Master.
W. JOSIAS H. MCCOMAS.....	Grand Senior Warden.
W. EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer,.
LINNEUS DUPUY.....	Grand Secretary.
ROBERT PARKINSON.....	Grand Marshal.
JOHN STEELE.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
GEORGE R. WILLIAMS.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

Harmony, No. 1—Linneus Dupuy, Robert Stewart.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—Robert Parkinson, James M. Steele, Charles Little.

Washington, No. 3—No representation.

Warren, No. 4—John P. Smith, William Harper, Levi C. Harris.

Columbus No. 5—William Cocke, James J. Rowan, Grand Treasurer, Linneus Dupuy, Grand Secretary.

Asylum, No. 6—No representation.

Rising Virtue, No. 7—James Chamberlain.

Covington, No. 8—No representation.

Monroe, U. D.—No representation.

Hiram, U. D.—Joseph Dunbar.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in ample form in the third degree of Masonry.

The M. W. Grand Master proceeded to appoint the following committees :

Bros. Josias H. McComas and Linneus Dupuy, to examine the books and papers of the Grand Treasurer.

Bros. James J. Rowan, Josias H. McComas and Elijah Smith to examine the books and papers of the Grand Secretary.

Bros. Robert Parkinson and James J. Rowan to audit the accounts of the Grand Steward.

Bros. James M. Steele and Robert Stewart to examine visiting brethren.

Bros. Edward Turner and John A. Quitman on Complaints and Appeals.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed, one hundred copies of the By-laws of this Grand Lodge, for the use of its members.*

Bro. Joseph Dunbar presented the returns of Hiram Lodge, U. D., and prayed for a charter for the same; and, on motion,

Resolved, That the prayer be granted, and ordered that the Grand Secretary issue a charter for said Lodge, to be numbered 9.

A petition from a number of brethren residing at and near the town of Vicksburg, for a dispensation for a new Lodge, to be called Franklin Lodge, was presented; and, upon motion,

Resolved, That the prayer be granted.

A similar petition from a number of brethren residing in Franklin county, for a Lodge, to be called Benjamin Franklin Lodge, was presented; and, upon motion,

Resolved, That the prayer be granted.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until half-past five o'clock to-morrow evening.

NATCHEZ, Tuesday, January 4, 1825.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor at half-past five o'clock.

PRESENT:

M. W. ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Master.
R. W. ELIJAH SMITH.....	Deputy Grand Master.
JOSIAS H. MCCOMAS.....	Grand Senior Warden.
EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
LINNÆUS DUPUY.....	Grand Secretary.
ROBERT PARKINSON.....	Grand Marshal.
JOHN STEELE.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
GEORGE R. WILLIAMS.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges:

- No. 1—Linnaeus Dupuy, Robert Stewart.
- No. 2—Robert Parkinson, James M. Steele.
- No. 3—A. W. Putnam.
- No. 4—John P. Smith, William Harper, Levi C. Harris.
- No. 5—Linnaeus Dupuy, William Cocke.
- No. 6—No representation.
- No. 7—James Chamberlain.
- No. 8—No representation.
- Monroe, U. D.—No representation.
- Hiram, No. 9—Joseph Dunbar.

The Committee to whom was referred the examination of the books and papers of the Grand Secretary, report that they have performed that duty;

*NOTE—The Committee charged with the duty of reprinting the proceedings, find no copy of the By-laws printed with the proceedings prior to this date.

that they find his books to have been neatly and correctly kept, and his papers regularly arranged and filed.

J. H. McCOMAS,
J. J. ROWAN.

The Committee to whom was referred the examination of the Grand Treasurer's books and vouchers, report that they have performed that duty, and find that the present Grand Treasurer has received, during the last year, the sum of \$604.00, and that he has paid for vouchers \$317.87, leaving a balance in the Treasury of \$286.13.

J. H. McCOMAS,
L. DUPUY,
Committee.

On motion, made and seconded,

Resolved, That the managers of the Grand Masonic Hall Lottery be requested to examine into the state of the Lottery, and report to-morrow evening.

Communications from the Grand Lodges of New York and New Hampshire were read and ordered to lie on the table.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, and upon ballots being taken, the following brethren were found duly elected, viz :

M. W. ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Master.
R. W. JOSEPH DUNBAR.....	Grand Senior Warden. ♠
JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Junior Warden.
EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
LINNÆUS DUPUY.....	Grand Secretary.
JAMES M. STEELE.....	Grand Marshal.
ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
GEORGE R. WILLIAMS.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Stewart and Tyler.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bro. Elijah Smith, Deputy Grand Master, and Bro. John P. Smith, Grand Senior Deacon.

The R. W. Grand Senior Warden appointed Bro. John Steele, Grand Junior Deacon.

The M. W. Grand Master then proceeded to install the Grand Officers, after being himself installed by the R. W. Deputy Grand Master.

Resolved, That Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 7, be indulged for the amount of its dues for the year 1824, until the first day of June next. •

The Lodge was then called to refreshment until to-morrow evening at half-past five o'clock.

NATCHEZ, Wednesday, January 5, 1825.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was called to labor at half-past five o'clock.

PRESENT.

M. W. ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Master.
R. W. ELIJAH SMITH.....	Deputy Grand Master.
JOSEPH DUNBAR.....	Grand Senior Warden.

EDWARD TURNER.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
LINNÆUS DUPUY.....	Grand Secretary.
JAMES M. STEELE.....	Grand Marshal.
GEORGE R. WILLIAMS.....	Grand Pursuivant.
ROBERT PARKINSON.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

- No. 1—L. Dupuy, Robert Stewart.
- No. 2—Robert Parkinson, James M. Steele, Charles Little.
- No. 3—No representation.
- No. 4—No representation.
- No. 5—L. Dupuy.
- No. 6—George H. Gordon.
- No. 7—No representation.
- No. 8—No representation.
- No. 9—Joseph Dunbar.
- Monroe, U. D.—No representation.

The managers of the Lottery made a report, and prayed for further time to report more fully ; and, on motion,

Resolved, That the report be received and agreed to.

Agreeably to a resolution of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, requiring the managers of the Lottery of said Grand Lodge to make a report of the situation of said Lottery, the managers beg leave to submit the following statement :

The law authorizes the Grand Lodge to raise the sum of \$25,000, by lottery.

The scheme required to raise this sum at the discount of 15 per cent., would amount to \$166,666.66 $\frac{2}{3}$.

The managers, according to the powers vested in them, contracted with the agent to sell the scheme for \$12,000, authorizing him to divide said lottery into one or more classes, as might be expedient, he paying a proportionate part of said sum of \$12,000, according to the amount of the classes drawn.

Two classes of said lottery have been drawn, the schemes of which amounted to \$55,000, near one-third of the whole amount.

The proportion due to the Grand Lodge upon the amount of said classes, is \$3960. The Grand Lodge invested in tickets the sum of \$3000. The tickets thus invested drew \$1128.75. Of this deduct the discount of 15 per cent., which is \$169.31 ; the net proceeds of the tickets is \$959.44.

Thus the loss sustained by the Grand Lodge on the purchase of tickets, is \$2040.56, which, deducted from the amount due the Grand Lodge, leaves \$1919.44 now due the Grand Lodge from the agent, according to contract.

The managers respectfully submit, that the above report is taken in a cursory manner from the books of the agent, and from such data as the shortness of the time has permitted them to examine. They, therefore, ask leave for further time to examine the correctness of said statement, and to report further.

ELIJAH SMITH,
J. E. DAVIS,
JOHN A. QUITMAN.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several Subordinate Lodges, to open books of subscription to raise funds to aid in erecting a Masonic Hall, and to place those funds, from time to time, in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, and make report to the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the unappropriated funds of this Grand Lodge be vested in stock of the Bank of the State of Mississippi, and that this resolution be carried into effect by the Grand Treasurer, by and with the advice and consent of the M. W. Grand Master, or the R. W. Deputy Grand Master.

Resolved, That the managers of the Lottery of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, be authorized to purchase, in the future class or classes of said Lottery, on account of this Grand Lodge, such number of tickets as they may deem advisable, not exceeding the amount to which said Lodge would be entitled in said class or classes.

Resolved, That on account of services rendered and to be rendered by the W. Grand Secretary of this W. Grand Lodge, he be exempt from paying his annual fees and contributions.

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master be, and is hereby authorized and requested to answer the communications of the M. W. Grand Lodges of the States of New Hampshire and New York, on the subject of erecting a monument at the grave, and in memory of our deceased brother and friend, the illustrious Washington; and to inform those Grand Lodges that we most heartily concur in the motives they express, but, from inability, regret that we cannot at present aid in the contemplated measure further than by contributing the sum of one hundred dollars.

Resolved, That this Lodge appropriate the sum of eleven dollars and fifty cents to the purchase of a sword, to be presented to our worthy brother, Joseph Newman, Grand Tyler.

WHEREAS, Monroe Lodge (working under dispensation from this Lodge) has failed to appear at the present Communication, by its representatives; and,

WHEREAS, Some unforeseen accident may have prevented the attendance of the representatives of said Lodge; and,

WHEREAS, The working of said Lodge is limited to the present session of this Grand Lodge,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, who shall be empowered to examine the returns of said Lodge, if made by or before the first day of March next, and if approved by them, they shall have authority to authorize said Lodge to continue their work, under their dispensation, until the next Grand Communication of this Grand Lodge.

Bros. E. Smith, J. Dunbar and J. A. Quitman, were appointed a committee to carry the above resolution into effect.

The following amendment to the By-laws of this Lodge, was proposed in proper form, and ordered to be committed to record, according to the 4th article and 11th section of the By-laws, prescribing the mode of altering the same, viz:

Resolved, That the 8th section of the 4th article of the By-laws of this Grand Lodge, be amended by reducing the annual contribution of the members from five to one dollar per annum, to take effect from and after the third day of January, A. D. 1825.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed, fifty copies of the minutes of this Grand Lodge, at its present session, and that he transmit a copy of the same to each of the Grand Lodges in the United States, and to the Lodges Subordinate to this Lodge.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form.

ATTEST :

L. DUPUY, Grand Secretary.

EIGHTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1826.

JANUARY 2, 1826.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge met in Grand Annual Communication.

PRESENT :

M.: W.: ISRAEL LORING.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.: EDWARD TURNER.....	Deputy Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
ROBERT PARKINSON.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
WOODSON WREN.....	Grand Secretary, <i>p. t.</i>
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
WM. BRAMHALL.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
WM. L. SHARKEY.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Members—George Newman and Edward Turner.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

Harmony, No. 1—John A. Quitman, Robert Stewart, Sturgess Sprague.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—Robert Parkinson, James M. Steele.

Washington, No. 3—P. A. Vandorn, A. W. Putnam.

Warren, No. 4—Putnam T. Williams, John H. Duncan.

Columbus, No. 5—J. J. Rowan, proxy.

Asylum, No. 6—Thomas B. J. Hadley, Jacob Nollner.

Rising Virtue, No. 7—Wm. Pendaris.

Hiram, No. 9—James Smith, Wm. B. Melvin.

• Franklin, U. D.—Wm. L. Sharkey, Wm. R. Bay.

Benj. Franklin, U. D.—Richard Bien.

Visitors—Israel Spencer, William Provan.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form, in the Third Degree of Masonry.

On motion by Past Grand Master Turner, and seconded, it is

Ordered, That the names of the Representatives of the different Subordinate Lodges be read by the Secretary, and if no objection is made to the same, that those now in attendance, be permitted to take their seats, as members of this M.: W.: Grand Lodge.

On motion by Grand Senior Warden Quitman, and seconded, it is

Ordered, That the returns of the different Subordinate Lodges be read in the Lodge, and that the members of the said Lodges take their seats accordingly.

Which being done, the M.: W.: Grand Master proceeded to, and announced the appointment of the following Committees :

To Examine the Grand Treasurer's Books and Papers—Bros. Vandorn and Sprague, and to report on to-morrow evening.

To Examine the Grand Secretary's Books and Papers—Bros. Rowan and Sprague, and to report on to-morrow evening.

To Examine and Audit the Accounts of the Grand Steward—Bros. Parkinson and Melvin.

To Examine Visiting Brethren—Bros. Stewart and Steele.

On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. Turner and Quitman.

On motion, it was

Ordered, That a Special Committee be appointed to examine the minutes of the last Grand Annual Communication of this M.: W.: Grand Lodge, and report to-morrow evening, on the unfinished business of the same.

Whereupon, Bros. Turner and Quitman were appointed said Committee.

Bro. Sharkey presented the petition of a number of brethren, working under dispensation, from this M.: W.: Grand Lodge at Vicksburg, in the county of Warren, praying that a charter may be granted to them.

Whereupon, on motion, and seconded, it is

Ordered, That a charter be granted to said brethren, constituting a Lodge by the name and style of Franklin Lodge, No. 10.

Bro. Bien presented the petition of a number of brethren, working under a dispensation from this M.: W.: Grand Lodge, at the house of Bro. Bien, in Franklin county, praying that a charter may be granted to them.

Whereupon, on motion and seconded, it is

Ordered, That a charter be granted to said brethren, constituting them a Lodge by the name and style of Benjamin Franklin Lodge, No. 11.

On motion and seconded, it is

Ordered, That the Committee, to whom was referred the examination of the Grand Lodge Lottery, be instructed to make a further report on the same to-morrow evening.

A communication from the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire, relative to the erection of a monument over the remains of our illustrious brother, GEORGE WASHINGTON, was read, and, on motion and seconded, it is

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to report on the same.

Whereupon, Bros. Turner and Quitman were appointed said Committee.

The Grand Lodge was then called to refreshment, until to-morrow at 3 o'clock P. M.

MASONIC HALL, January 3, 1826.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge was called to labor at 3 o'clock, P. M.

PRESENT :

M.: W.: ISRAEL LORING.....Grand Master.

R.: W.: ELIJAH SMITH.....Deputy Grand Master.

JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
PETER A. VANDORN.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
WOODSON WREN.....	Grand Secretary, <i>p. t.</i>
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
A. W. PUTNAM.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
WM. L. SHARKEY.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Members—George Newman and Edward Turner.

Representatives from Subordinate Lodges :

No. 1—John A. Quitman, S. Sprague.

3—P. A. Vandorn, A. W. Putnam.

4—P. T. Williams.

5—J. J. Rowan, proxy.

6—T. B. J. Hadley.

9—James Smith, W. B. Melvin.

10—Wm. L. Sharkey, Wm. R. Bay.

11—Richard Bien.

The Committee appointed to examine the Grand Treasurer's books and papers, reported that there was due to the Grand Lodge from the estate of Bro. Henry Postlethwaite, the sum of \$397 66, and from other sources, \$1,254 54, and that the books and papers were correctly kept and in good order, which report was received and agreed to.

The Committee, who were appointed to examine the books and papers kept by the Grand Secretary, made the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi :

The Committee, who were appointed to examine the books and papers of this Lodge, kept by the Grand Secretary for the past year, beg leave to report that they have performed that duty, and that they find the book containing the record of the proceedings of the M. W. Grand Lodge kept in an uncommonly neat and elegant manner, but that the papers belonging to the department of the Grand Secretary, are in much confusion and very imperfectly filed.

Your Committee would respectfully recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to endorse upon each paper the substance of the contents thereof, also the year in which such paper was received, and that the papers of each year be placed in a file by themselves, separate and apart from those of other years.

S. SPRAGUE,
J. J. ROWAN,
Committee.

Whereupon, on motion and seconded, it is

Ordered, That said report be received and agreed to.

The Committee, who were appointed to examine grievances and appeals, made the following

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand Master :

Your Committee, to whom was referred the subject of appeals and grievances, respectfully report that no appeals or grievances have been laid before them. They, therefore, beg to be discharged.

JOHN A. QUITMAN,
Committee.

Whereupon, on motion and seconded, it is ordered that said report be received and agreed to.

The Special Committee, to whom was referred the Unfinished Business of this Lodge, made the following

REPORT.

Your Committee, appointed to revise and report the Unfinished Business of this Grand Lodge, beg leave to report that they find, by the minutes of the last Grand Annual Communication, Rising Virtue Lodge and Columbus Lodge had not paid up their dues, but it appears they have since done so, and that their accounts are now balanced, or that the funds are now present for a full payment.

Your Committee are informed that the surplus funds of the Grand Lodge have not been vested in bank stock, but your Committee are not informed of the reason why it has not been done, under the resolution of January, 1825.

Your Committee have not been informed that subscriptions have been opened at any of the Subordinate Lodges, under a resolution of January 1825, for raising funds to aid in erecting a Masonic Hall, and your Committee will recommend the continuance of that resolution, as well as that on the subject of bank stock.

Your Committee further find that, in January, 1825, an amendment was proposed to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, which they recommend shall now be acted on.

Your Committee find no other Unfinished Business, except that which is in the hands of the Committee on the subject of the Lottery.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

E. TURNER,
JOHN A. QUITMAN,
Committee.

Whereupon, on motion and seconded, it is ordered that said report be received and agreed to.

The Committee, to whom was referred the communication from the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of New Hampshire, relating to the erection of a monument over the remains of our illustrious Brother George Washington, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee, to whom was referred the letter and resolutions from the Grand Master and Grand Lodge of the State of New Hampshire, of June, 1825, on the subject of the Washington Monument, beg leave to report that it is not known whether the Congress of the United States will carry into effect their resolution of 1799, for the erection of a monument over the remains of Washington; as that point may be settled previous to February, 1827, and as it may be desirable that this measure shall be carried into effect by the several Grand Lodges which have undertaken it, your Committee deem it expedient and proper to unite in the appointment of Trustees, to act with those appointed by the Grand Lodges on this occasion, and do recommend to this Grand Lodge, the adoption of resolutions similar to those sent us by the Lodge of New Hampshire, and do also recommend the appointment of our worthy Brother, the R.: W.: Christopher Rankin, member of Congress, a Trustee on the part of this Grand Lodge, to act with those appointed, or who may be appointed by other Grand Lodges for the same purpose.

JOHN A. QUITMAN,
E. TURNER,
Committee.

Whereupon, on motion and seconded, it is ordered that said report be received and agreed to.

A resolution having been adopted at the last Annual Grand Communication of this M. W. Grand Lodge, which follows, to-wit :

Resolved, That the 8th section of the 4th article of the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, be amended by reducing the annual contributions of the members from five dollars to one dollar per annum, to take effect from and after the third day of January, A. D., 1825.

And the same having been communicated to the several Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge.

On motion, seconded and unanimously agreed to, it is ordered that the said amendment be adopted, and become a part of the By-Laws of this M. W. Grand Lodge,

Bro. Joseph Dunbar, Grand Senior Warden, appeared and took his station in the M. W. Grand Lodge.

The petition of Bro. Woodson Wren, praying to become a member of this M. W. Grand Lodge, was presented, and, on motion and seconded, it is ordered that the same be received, and that the Lodge do proceed to ballot upon his petition.

Whereupon, it was announced by the M. W. Grand Master, Grand Senior and Junior Wardens, that the ballot was clear, and that Bro. Wren was accordingly admitted to take his seat as a member of this M. W. Grand Lodge.

On motion and seconded, that the bond executed to, and the articles of agreements entered into with the managers of the Grand Masonic Lottery, by the Agent thereof, be recorded in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge. It is ordered that the same be done, and which follow in the words and figures following, to-wit :

Know all men by these presents, That we, Josias H. McComas and John Minor, of the county of Adams and State of Mississippi, are held and firmly bound to the Managers of the Lottery of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, in the sum of fifty thousand dollars, (\$50,000,) lawful money of the State aforesaid, to which payment, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, and each of us, and each of our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals, dated this twenty-eighth day of August, eighteen hundred and twenty-two.

The condition of this obligation is such, that whereas the above bound Josias H. McComas has this day been duly appointed by the Managers of the Lottery of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, the sole agent, with full and ample power, to vend and dispose of tickets in said Lottery, and to make arrangements for, and superintend the drawing thereof, under the direction of said Managers, pursuant to an article of agreement, bearing even date herewith. Now, if the said Josias H. McComas, well and truly, without fraud or delay, account with the said Managers, from time to time, as may, by them be deemed necessary and proper, for all moneys arising from the sale of tickets in the before-mentioned Lottery, delivered to him as agent of said Managers, then this obligation to be void and of no effect, or else the same to be and remain in full force and virtue.

Signed :

J. H. McCOMAS, [SEAL.]
JOHN MINOR, [SEAL.]

Articles of agreement made and entered into this 28th day of August, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-two, (1822), between H. Postlethwaite, E. Turner, Elijah Smith, Israel Loring and J. E. Davis, a majority of the Managers of the Lottery of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, and Josias H. McComas, the agent of said Managers, also of the State aforesaid :

WITNESSETH, It is agreed between the parties to these presents, that the said Josias H., is to be the sole agent for vending and disposing of tickets in

the said Lottery, and for superintending the drawings thereof, under the superintendence of the said Managers, or a majority thereof, or of a Committee by them to be appointed, with liberty to employ any agents under him that he may deem necessary, which agents are to be under his sole control and government.

The said Josias H. hereby binds himself to commence the drawing of said Lottery, on or before the first day of January, eighteen hundred and twenty-four, (1824,) provided that sales to the amount of two-thirds of the tickets of any one class of said Lottery should be effected, and if such sales are not so made on the first day of January, eighteen hundred and twenty-four, (1824,) that the said Josias is to return all purchase money advanced on such tickets to the holders thereof; and on such repayment, that he and his securities shall be discharged from all liability thereon, and from the provisions of these articles.

The said Josias H. McComas, agent as aforesaid, shall have full liberty to divide the Lottery aforesaid, into two or more classes, as he may deem convenient and necessary.

The said Josias H. hereby further agrees, that he will become solely responsible for all charges and expenses of printing tickets, advertising, employing agents, vending tickets, and drawing said Lottery, with all incidental charges that may accrue therein and not hereby specially provided for.

It is further agreed, and the said Josias H. hereby binds himself, to pay over to the Managers aforesaid, within sixty days from the completion of the drawings of said Lottery, the sum of twelve thousand dollars, (\$12,000,) or in the case the same should be divided into two or more classes, then a proportionate part of said sum of twelve thousand dollars, (\$12,000,) which said sum of twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000,) is to be received by the said Managers as a full and complete compensation for the benefit of said Lottery.

And the said Josias H. further agrees, that he will, within sixty days after the completion of the drawings of said Lottery, or the drawing of any class thereof, pay over all prizes that may be drawn, such prizes being first subject to a deduction of fifteen per cent.

It is further understood and agreed between the parties to this agreement, that all benefit or advantage that may be derived by any rise in the value of tickets, is to accrue and belong to the said Josias H. for his own proper gain.

It is further agreed, that he, the said Josias H., is to give a bond to the Managers aforesaid, with satisfactory security for any amount of tickets, which he may from time to time require of them. And,

It is further agreed, that in case any misunderstanding should occur between the parties to this agreement, or to any article or clause thereof, that the same shall be referred to one or more disinterested persons, as may be agreed on by the parties, whose decisions shall be considered binding on the parties.

Signed :

H. POSTLETHWAITE,
E. TURNER,
ELIJAH SMITH,
ISRAEL LORING,
J. E. DAVIS,
J. H. McCOMAS, Agent.

The petition of Bro. D. S. Walker was presented, praying to become a member of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and, on motion and seconded, it is ordered that the same be received, and that the Lodge do proceed to ballot on his petition.

Whereupon, the ballot being taken, it was announced by the M.: W.: Grand Master, Grand Senior and Junior Wardens, that the same was clear, and Bro. Walker was accordingly declared to be duly elected a member of this M.: W.: Grand Lodge.

The Lodge was thereupon called to refreshment for half an hour. At the expiration of which time they were again called to labor, when the following

officers, members and visitors, in addition to those already named, appeared and took their places in the Lodge, to-wit :

George R. Williams, W.: Grand Pursuivant.

Members—J. H. McComas.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

Harmony, No. 1—Robert Stewart.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—R. Parkinson, J. W. Steele, Geo. W. Grant.

Lafayette, U. D.—Wm. Bell.

Visitors—Aaron Wager, Charles Little, Minor F. Winn, John Lombard, Thomas Barnard, E. H. Miller, Howell Moss, William Roundtree, James B. Murphy, Edward Smith, Silas Wilson, Henry Crooks, George Snyder.

The demission of the R.: W.: Linnaeus Dupuy, late Secretary of this M.: W.: Grand Lodge, was presented, and his dues to the same having been paid, it was ordered that he have leave to demit from this M.: W.: Grand Lodge.

The Committee on the Lottery of the Grand Lodge, who were on yesterday directed to make to-day a further report of the situation of the same, submitted the following additional

REPORT :

The Committee of Managers of the Grand Masonic Lottery, appointed at the last session of the M.: W.: Grand Lodge, of this State, to report the situation of the said Lottery, respectfully submit the following additional report :

That this Committee have entered into a strict and circumstantial examination of the affairs of said Lottery, and can now say with certainty, that the report made by this Committee at the last Annual Communication of this Lodge, is correct, except in one instance in which a slight numerical error exists, namely, in the amount due to the Grand Lodge, upon the two first classes of said Lottery, which amount, instead of being \$3960, as mentioned in said report, ought to be \$3980, and consequently, the amount due the Grand Lodge at the time of making said report, was \$1939.44, instead of \$1919.44, then reported.

Your Committee further represent, that since the above report was made, four additional classes of said Lottery have been drawn, the schemes of which have amounted to \$6944, upon which the agent has become indebted to the Lodge in the additional sum of \$449.46, for the proportional per centage on said scheme.

In one of said classes, the Managers, by authority heretofore given them, invested the sum of \$192 in the purchase of tickets, the proceeds of which amounted to \$195.50, after deducting the 15 per cent., being \$3.50 more than the purchase money. It will thus be seen by the annexed statement, to which the Committee beg leave to refer, that the sum now due to the Grand Lodge by the agent of the Lottery, amounts to \$2442.62.

Your Committee further report, that the obligations of the agent for the faithful performance of his duties, are secured by the most ample securities, now in the hands of the Managers, and it is with satisfaction they can say, that the agent has always been ready to afford them every facility for investigating his accounts with the Grand Lodge ; and in them they have uniformly found the utmost fairness and plain dealing. The agent has informed this Committee that he intends making a private report to the Grand Lodge, on the subject of the money now due. This Committee therefore beg leave to call the attention of the M.: W.: Lodge to the same.

Your Committee having reported fully, pray to be discharged.

JOHN A. QUITMAN,

ELIJAH SMITH.

Committee.

J. H. McCOMAS, In account with Grand Lodge:

DR.

To per centage on \$55,000, 2 classes.....	\$3980 00
To per centage on \$6,944, 4 classes.....	490 68
To gain on purchase of tickets.....	3 50
	<hr/>
	\$4483 18

CR.

By loss of Grand Lodge on first purchase of tickets.....	\$2040 56
Due Grand Lodge.....	\$2242 62

Whereupon, on motion and seconded, it is ordered that said report lie on the table.

On motion, and seconded, it is ordered that the following preamble and resolution be adopted:

It appearing to the satisfaction of the Lodge, that Covington, No. 8, one of the Subordinate Lodges, and held at Liberty, in the county of Amite, has failed to send representatives to this Grand Lodge, and to make report to the same for two years; therefore,

Resolved, That said Covington Lodge be suspended from working until such time as a proper return shall be made to the Grand Master or his Deputy, with a sufficient excuse for non-compliance, and in case said Lodge shall fail in this, that the Secretary notify the same to show cause, at the next regular Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, why the charter of said Lodge No. 8, should not be withdrawn, according to the Constitution and By-laws of said Grand Lodge. And that a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to Covington Lodge, by the Grand Secretary.

The petition of Bro. Thomas Barnard, praying to become a member of this M.: W.: Grand Lodge, was presented, and, on motion, and seconded, it is ordered that said petition be received, and that the Lodge do now proceed to ballot on the same.

Whereupon, the ballot was taken, it was announced by the M.: W.: Master, Grand Senior and Junior Wardens, that the same was clear, and Bro. Barnard was declared to be duly elected a member of this M.: W.: Grand Lodge.

The proceedings of a number of brethren, working under a dispensation from this Grand Lodge, at Winchester, in Wayne county, were returned, and submitted to the inspection of the M.: W.: Grand Master, and he having approved of the same, Bro. Wm. Bell presented the petition of said brethren, praying that a charter may be granted them.

Whereupon, on motion, and seconded, it is ordered that a charter be granted in conformity to their petition, constituting them a Lodge, by the name and style of Lafayette Lodge, No. 12.

The petition from a number of brethren working under a dispensation from this Lodge, at Columbia, in Marion county, praying that a charter be granted to them, was presented.

Whereupon, on motion, and seconded, it is ordered that a charter be granted to said brethren, constituting them a Lodge, by the name and style of Monroe Lodge, No. 13.

On motion, and seconded, it is ordered that the Secretary of this Grand Lodge be required to procure a suitable box for the purpose of keeping therein the records and papers belonging to the Lodge; also, to procure all necessary stationery for the use of the same, and that the Grand Treasurer pay for said box and stationery out of the funds of the Lodge.

On motion, and seconded, it is ordered that the Lodge do now go into an election of officers, for the ensuing year.

Whereupon, an election was held, and the M.: W.: Grand Master announced as the result of the same, that the following persons were elected officers of this R.: W.: Grand Lodge for the year following :

M.: W.: JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.: JOSEPH DUNBAR.....	Grand Senior Warden.
ROBERT PARKINSON.....	Grand Junior Warden.
Rev. JAMES PILMORE.....	Grand Chaplain.
WILLIAM L. SHARKEY.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Secretary.
JOHN M. STEELE.....	Grand Marshal.
P. T. WILLIAMS.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
GEORGE R. WILLIAMS.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The M.: W.: Grand Master elect, thereupon appointed Peter A. Vandorn R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master, and Richard Bein Grand Senior Deacon.

And the R.: W.: Grand Senior Warden elect, appointed Robert Stewart, Grand Junior Deacon.

The M.: W.: John A. Quitman, having declared his acceptance of the office of Grand Master, was duly installed by the M.: W.: Grand Master, in the same, in ample form and with ancient ceremonies, who, thereupon, proceeded to install the officers elected and appointed for the ensuing year, in the same form and with the same ceremonies.

The newly installed Grand Officers, having taken their respective stations and places in the Lodge,

On motion, by P. G. M. Turner, and seconded, It is ordered that the thanks of this Grand Lodge be given to our late and Most Worthy Grand Master, Israel Loring, for the unremitted care and attention with which he has discharged the duties of M.: W.: Grand Master of this Lodge.

On motion, by the R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master, and seconded, It is ordered, that the sum of two hundred dollars be paid to Bro. Edmund M. Eldridge, out of the funds of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, for the eminent services he has rendered to different Subordinate Lodges within the State, in lecturing and improving the Lodges and members thereof, and the Grand Treasurer be instructed to pay the same, by virtue of this resolution, taking Bro. Eldridge's receipt therefor.

On motion and seconded, It is ordered that this Grand Lodge adjourn until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Whereupon, the Lodge was called to refreshment till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

MASONIC HALL, January 4, 1826.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge was called to labor again at 9 o'clock, A. M.

PRESENT :

M.: W.: JOHN A. QUITMAN.....Grand Master.

R. W. JOSEPH DUNBAR.....Grand Senior Warden.
 ROBERT PARKINSON.....Grand Junior Warden.
 WILLIAM L. SHARKEY.....Grand Orator.
 S. SPRAGUE.....Grand Secretary.
 RICHARD BEIN.....Grand Senior Deacon.
 R. STEWART.....Grand Junior Deacon.
 JOSEPH NEWMAN.....Grand Steward and Tyler

Members—Israel Loring, P. G. M., George Newman.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges:

Harmony, No. 1—M. W. G. M., S. Sprague, R. Stewart.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—R. Parkinson.

Franklin, No. 10—W. L. Sharkey, Wm. R. Bay.

Lafayette, No. 12—Wm. Bell.

On motion, by Bro. Parkinson, and seconded, it is ordered that the Grand Treasurer of this M. W. Grand Lodge, be instructed to pay out of the Treasury an equal proportion of the expense of procuring a carpet for the Lodge room, and also an equal part of the rent of the same, with Harmony Lodge, No. 1, Andrew Jackson, No. 2, and the Natchez Royal Arch Chapter, for the ensuing year.

On motion, and seconded, it is ordered that the Secretary of this Lodge procure one hundred copies of the proceedings thereof, to be printed, and forward one copy of the same to each of the Grand Lodges in the United States, and also, a copy to each of the Subordinate Lodges of this Lodge.

On motion, by the Grand Senior Warden, and seconded, it is ordered that the Grand Secretary be and is hereby instructed to procure the printing of one hundred copies of the Constitution and By-laws of this M. W. Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Treasurer pay the expense of the same out of the Treasury.

On motion, by Bro. Putnam, and seconded, it is ordered that five hundred blank circulars of the officers elect of this Grand Lodge be procured, to be printed, by the secretary, and that one of the same be forwarded to each of the Grand Lodges in the United States, and to every Subordinate Lodge in this State.

The Committee to whom was referred to examine and audit the Grand Steward and Tyler's account, made the following

REPORT.

That they have examined the Grand Steward and Tyler's accounts, and find that there is due to him from this M. W. Grand Lodge, the following sums, to-wit:

For refreshment and general expenses at this Grand Annual Communication.....	\$50 00
For Tyler's annual fee.....	15 00
Making in all.....	\$65 00

R. PARKINSON, Committee.

Whereupon, on motion and seconded, it is ordered that the same be received and agreed to.

On motion, by Bro. Putnam, and seconded, it is ordered that the Lodge do now take up and consider the report of the Committee of Managers on the Grand Masonic Lottery.

And, on motion and seconded, it is ordered that the same be received, and that the Managers of said Lottery be instructed to obtain the money due the Grand Lodge, now in the hands of the agent of the same, and vest the said money in such manner as that a legal interest may be derived to the Lodge for such sum.

On motion, and seconded, it is ordered that the sum of two dollars be remitted from the dues due to this Grand Lodge by Lafayette Lodge No. 12, it being for the initiation and passing a clergyman in said Lodge.

On motion, and seconded, it is ordered that the Secretary be instructed to have a list of the Subordinate Lodges of this State, up to the 4th of January, 1826, and their places of working, together with the date of their charter or dispensation attached to the Constitution and By-laws about to be printed.

On motion, and seconded, it is ordered that the following proposed amendment to the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, lie on the table until the next Grand Annual Communication.

"That the third section of the second article of the Constitution of this R.: W.: Grand Lodge be amended, by authorizing any Past Master being a member of this Grand Lodge, or of some Subordinate Lodge to this Lodge, to install the officers of Subordinate Lodges when it is inconvenient or impracticable for the M.: W.: Grand Master, or his Deputy, to attend, and to make return of his proceedings to the M.: W.: Grand Master."

On motion, and seconded, it is ordered that the order directing one hundred copies of the Constitution and By-laws of this Grand Lodge, to be printed, be reconsidered.

Whereupon, on motion and seconded, It is ordered that the same lie on the table until the next Grand Annual Communication of this M.: W.: Grand Lodge.

No more business appearing, this M.: W.: Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form, and in due harmony.

ATTEST:

STURGES SPRAGUE, Grand Secretary.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

PORT GIBSON, September 30, 1826.

Application having been made to the R.: W.: Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, through the R.: W.: Dep. Grand Master, by the Methodist Episcopal Society, to lay, with Masonic honors, the corner stone of a church about to be erected in Port Gibson by that society—In answer to which application, a Special Meeting of the R.: W.: Grand Lodge was called and held in that place on the 30th day of September, A. D. 1826, Anno Lucis, 5826.

PRESENT:

M.: W.: JOHN A. QUITMAN.....Grand Master.

R. W. PETER A. VANDORN.....	Deputy Grand Master.
JOSEPH DUNBAR.....	Grand Senior Warden.
JAMES SMITH.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
REV. JAMES PILMORE.....	Grand Chaplain.
P. T. WILLIAMS.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
SAMUEL HOIT.....	Grand Treasurer, <i>p. t.</i>
STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Secretary.
RICHARD BIEN.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Members—Israel Loring, P. G. M., Amos Whiting.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges:

Harmony, No. 1—John A. Quitman, G. M.; Robert Stewart, S. W.; Sturges Sprague, J. W.

Washington, No. 3—Peter A. Vandorn, D. G. M.; Joseph Nichols, S. W.; Thos. Magruder, J. W.

Warren, No. 4—P. T. Williams, M.; Levi C. Harris, S. W.; J. H. Duncan, J. W.

Hiram, No. 9—Jos. Dunbar, M.; James Smith, S. W.

Benjamin Franklin, No. 11—Richard Bien, M.; John Cameron, S. W.; R. K. Pickett, J. W.

Visitors—John Lombard, John Routh, A. B. Bradford, Richmond Bledsoe, of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, Mississippi.

Francis Little, R. C. Langdon, Erich H. Miller, Clement McKnight, William Prince, of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, Mississippi.

John H. Esty, Daniel Greenleaf, Benjamin F. Stockton, A. K. Shaifer, Campbell McCay, Claudius Gibson, David D. Downing, James P. Parker, John Henderson, William King, E. A. George, B. Crutcher, George P. Applegate, James Cornell, Jacob Shrut, Perry Nugent, Wm. Davis, Robert S. Steele, William A. A. Chisholm, Peter C. Chambliss, Sack P. Gee, George Kearn, of Washington, No. 3, Mississippi.

D. Harding, Israel Spencer, George Robinson, Philip Hughes, Robert Farlie, of Warren, No. 4, Mississippi.

James Tooley, Francis Blackwell, F. Wood, John G. Timony, Wm. Dixon, of Hiram, No. 9, Mississippi.

Thomas Hinds, Warren, No. 4, Mississippi.

A. Evans, of Franklin, No. 10, Mississippi.

Dempsey P. Cain, of Benjamin Franklin, No. 11, Mississippi.

Joseph S. Gibbs, of Temple, No. 11, Delaware.

Eli Montoyne, Thomas Brown, Zanesville, Ohio.

William J. Redd, Franklin, Union.

Robert Willis, Millina Lodge, No. 165, Pittsburgh.

P. F. Merrick, No. 25, Columbia, Conn.

James Edwards, No. 1, South Carolina.

I. R. Nicholson, No. 63, Pendleton Lodge, South Carolina.

John H. Mallory, No. 8, Union Lodge, Savannah, Georgia.

Joseph Miller, No. 74, Abbeville, South Carolina.

Jonathan Edwards, Burlington, Ky.

Henry T. Irish, St. Johns, Rhode Island.

C. Dart, No. 47, Mianca, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Jas. McFarland, No. 45, Pittsburgh, Pa.

E. Ogden, St. Tammany, New Jersey.

Wm. Perkins, Washington, No. 4, Missouri.

John Casey, No. 66, Morganfield, Ky.

The R. W. Grand Lodge was opened in the first Degree of Masonry. The Grand Master then announced that the following was the order of procession to be observed in performing the ceremonies of the day, and directed the same to be read :

ORDER OF PROCESSION.

Two Tylers, with drawn swords.
 Two Stewards, with white rods.
 Entered Apprentices.
 Fellow Crafts.
 Master Masons.
 Junior Deacons.
 Senior Deacons.
 Secretaries.
 Treasurers.
 Junior Wardens.
 Senior Wardens.
 Past Masters.
 Royal Arch Masons.
 Knights Templar.
 Grand Tyler, with drawn sword.
 A Brother carrying a vessel with corn.
 Two Brothers carrying vessels with wine and oil.
 Grand Secretary.
 Grand Treasurer.
 Bible, Square and Compass, borne by an old Mason, supported by the Grand Chaplain.
 Past Grand Wardens.
 Past Deputy Grand Masters.
 Past Grand Masters.
 Junior Grand Warden.
 Senior Grand Warden.
 Deputy Grand Master.
 Book of Constitutions.
 Grand Master,
 Supported by Grand Deacons.
 Grand Sword Bearer.
 Ministers of the Gospel.
 Trustees of the Church.
 Justices of the County Court.
 Select Men of Port Gibson.
 Magistrates of the County.
 Citizens.

The Grand Lodge was then adjourned and formed into procession in the above order, by Bro. Gibbs, who acted as Grand Marshal, assisted by Bros. Redd and Brown, who acted as deputies.

After being formed, the procession proceeded to the court house, where a sermon was delivered by the Rev. John C. Burruss. After which the procession was again formed and proceeded to the site selected for the erection of the

Methodist Episcopal Church, the corner stone of which was laid by the Most Worshipful Grand Master, in due form, and with Ancient ceremonies. An address was then pronounced by the Reverend Grand Chaplain; at the conclusion of which, the procession was again formed and proceeded to the Lodge Room. The adjournment was, thereupon, suspended and the Lodge proceeded to business.

The following resolution, offered by the Grand Treasurer, and seconded by the Deputy Grand Master, was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to ask Bro. Pilmore for a copy of his most excellent address, (delivered this day) for publication.

Also the following resolution, offered by Deputy Grand Master Vandorn, and seconded by Bro. Magruder, was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary request of the Rev. John C. Burruss, for publication, a copy of his eloquent and able discourse, this day delivered by him, on the occasion of laying the foundation stone of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

After prayers by the Grand Chaplain, the R. W. Grand Lodge was closed in due form and harmony.

ATTEST :

STURGES SPRAGUE, Grand Secretary.

NINTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1827.

NATCHEZ, January 4, 1827.

PRESENT :

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. PETER A. VANDORN.....	Deputy Grand Master.
JOSEPH DUNBAR.....	Grand Senior Warden.
R. PARKINSON.....	Grand Junior Warden.
JAMES M. STEEL.....	Grand Marshal.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Secretary.
JOHN H. DUNCAN.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
A. W. PUTNAM.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Members—Edward Turner, P. G. M.; George Newman.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

Harmony, No. 1—Sturges Sprague, W. M.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—R. Parkinson, W. M.; A. Brown, J. W., and James M. Steel.

Warren, No. 4—John H. Duncan, S. W.

Asylum, No. 6—Tho. Lyne, S. W., and E. H. Wailes.

Rising Virtue, No. 7—D. Gordon, W. M.; James C. Hughes, S. W.; Jimmerson Strother.

Hiram, No. 9—James Smith, W. M.; William B. Melvin, S. W.; F. Wood, J. W.

Benjamin Franklin, No. 11—John Cameron, S. W.; James C. Hawley.

LaFayette, No. 12—Thos. P. Falkner, S. W.

Visitors—Thos. Barnard, D. C. Miller, James Carson, G. H. Bledsoe, of Harmony, No. 1.

R. Skinner, Warren, No. 4.

Elijah Cheatham, Wm. J. Brown, John Campbell, Erich H. Miller, John McLeary, John W. Scott, of Andrew Jackson, No. 2.

C. Dart, Union Lodge, No. 40.

D. Lawrence, Columbus, No. 5.

Jas. Edwards, Charleston Lodge, No. 1, South Carolina.

R. Smith, Concord Lodge, No. 15, Ohio.

D. Ayers, Selected Friends Lodge, U. D., La.

J. P. Caldwell, Hopkinsville, 46, Ky.

The R. W. Grand Lodge was opened in the Third Degree of Masonry.

The Grand Master made the following communication :

By the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, a long interval always occurs between the regular Communications of this Body. In the meanwhile, during the recess, much important business is generally transacted, and many things occur of vital interest to the prosperity of Masonry in the State. The Grand Lodge is composed principally of delegates or representatives from the Subordinate Lodges, and it frequently happens that new representatives are returned who have never had an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the subjects which have heretofore occupied the attention of the Grand Lodge.

These reasons have induced me to present you with the following brief report of the transactions of the past year, to which I have added some observations upon those subjects which will necessarily come before you during the present session. It will be recollected that at the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, a resolution was passed suspending the labors of Covington Lodge, until such time as a proper return should be made to the Grand Master, or his deputy, together with a sufficient excuse for neglect, in not complying with the requisitions of this Grand Lodge. Shortly after the adjournment of the Grand Lodge, in January last, I was applied to on behalf of the said Lodge for permission to recommence their labors, and an excuse was rendered for former delinquencies. This excuse I deemed sufficient, and gave the authority prayed for, upon the promise of the representation of said Lodge that a proper return should be made before the first of May, and upon payment of dues for the preceding year, limiting the operation of said authority, however, to the first day of May, unless before that time, full and complete returns should be made according to the requisition of the Lodge. Such return has not been made to me, and, of course, under the resolution of last session, said Subordinate Lodge has forfeited its privileges, unless the Grand Lodge shall see fit to restore them.

In the month of September last, a Special Grand Lodge was opened in Port Gibson, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Methodist Episcopal meeting-house in that place, with Masonic honors. The officers of the Grand Lodge generally, attended, and several of the Subordinate Lodges, within a convenient distance, were there represented. The ceremony was duly performed, and very gratefully acknowledged by the respectable society of Christians who had requested it. For particulars, I refer to the minutes of this Lodge and the accompanying documents.

During the recess of the Grand Lodge, I have granted dispensations to two new Lodges in the State of Louisiana, one situated at Clinton, the other at Jackson, in the parish of Feliciana, and not far from the borders of this State.

These dispensations were not granted by me without some hesitation, not on the score of the powers which I possess as Grand Master of this State, but for the solicitude which I felt that the harmony which exists between the Grand Lodges of the State of Louisiana and of this State, should not, in any possible manner, be disturbed. I was induced to extend the patronage of this Grand Lodge to the petitioners, partly from the circumstance of their position being nearer to us than to New Orleans, and partly on account of the preference shown by them in the application, and their earnest wish to do homage to the Masonic authorities of this State. Some time after these Lodges were erected, I received a communication from the M. W. Grand Master of the State of Louisiana on this subject, which communication, together with my reply, accompanies this report. I was also addressed by the several Lodges on this subject. They ultimately requested permission to surrender their dispensations to this Grand Lodge, and to take out charters under their own Grand Lodge. This course met with my entire approbation, and, accordingly, I lay before the Lodge the surrender of these Subordinate Lodges, to be acted on at this meeting.

Owing to the many Masonic duties which I have had, it has not been in my power to visit many of the Lodges in the State, but I have corresponded with

enlightened members of most of them on Masonic subjects, and can say with confidence, that Masonic Light is rapidly diffusing itself, and our Ancient and honorable Order is in the most flourishing and prosperous condition in this State.

I cannot conclude this brief report without calling your most serious attention to the long contemplated erection of a Masonic Hall in the city of Natchez. I need not urge upon the members of this Lodge the necessity of erecting a suitable edifice for our meetings, and of devoting all the funds which we may be enabled to command, to this object. It ought not to be deferred, but strenuously carried into execution as soon as possible. The convenience and comfort of the members of the Grand Lodge, and the honor of Masonry require it.

From the present state of the finances of the Lodge, the work may, with propriety, be commenced, and whatever sum might be hereafter required, should it not be immediately available, might be raised by loan or otherwise. Including the amount due the Grand Lodge from the late agent of the lottery, a sum upwards of \$3000 is subject to the control of this Lodge. The Lodges in this place, and the Natchez Royal Arch Chapter have, as I am informed, subscribed \$2000, and independent of the latter sum, about \$—, has been secured by subscription in the several Lodges of this city. What has been done by the Lodges in the other parts of the State, I am not yet informed of. Under the impression that we have about \$7000 secured for the above named purpose, I recommend that a Committee should be appointed to examine into the propriety of commencing the erection of a Masonic Hall, as soon as practicable, and in case the step should be thought advisable, that such Committee should report fully their views upon the ways and means to be used for carrying the great object into effect.

Brethren, I conclude by earnestly calling upon you all for co-operation and assistance in the transactions of this Grand Communication.

Let us proceed mildly, but with energy, that harmony and unanimity may prevail. And may the blessings of heaven rest upon our endeavors to promote the cause of light and truth.

Signed :

JNO. A. QUITMAN.

The Grand Treasurer reported that at the Commencement of the year 1826 there was an unappropriated balance of \$606 88 in his hands, and that during the year, the receipts from all sources, was \$770 00. Total \$1,376 88. The expenditures were, \$1,124 25, leaving a balance on hand of \$252 63, to which sum ought to be added four shares of bank stock, owned by the Grand Lodge, valued at \$456 00. Total assets, \$708 63.

The Grand Secretary made the following report:

That in conformity with directions contained in a report of a Committee, made at the last Annual Grand Communication, appointed to inspect the Grand Secretary's books and papers, the Grand Secretary has endorsed upon the papers belonging to this department, the substance of the contents of each paper and has placed them in separate files; the papers received in each year making one file, all of which are now ready for the inspection of the M. W. Grand Lodge.

That since the last Annual Grand Communication, our worthy and lamented brother Christopher Rankin, has deceased. It will be recollected by the Lodge, that our Bro. Rankin was appointed Trustee on the part of this Grand Lodge, to meet those appointed by the other Grand Lodges of the Union at Washington City, for the purpose of making arrangements preparatory to the erection of a monument over the remains of our deceased and venerated brother, George Washington; this Grand Lodge has no representative now to meet the other Trustees.

At the last Grand Communication, a resolution was adopted requiring Covington Lodge to suspend its labors, unless a proper return should be made to the

Grand Master or his deputy, with a sufficient excuse for their neglect in not making a return. And on failure to do this, that the Grand Secretary notify the said Lodge to show cause, at the present Grand Communication, why their charter should not be withdrawn, and also that a copy of the resolution be transmitted to Covington Lodge. Very soon after the adjournment of the Grand Lodge, at their last Annual Communication, an agent appeared here for Covington Lodge, made a return and paid up the dues of said Lodge for the year 1825, but not for the year previous. A dispensation was granted by the M. W. Grand Master for Covington Lodge to continue its labors until the first of May then following, when, if a correct return for the year aforesaid was made and the dues paid, that their labors would be continued; that return not having been made, they, of course, have discontinued to work, the reason for which will be found in a letter from Covington Lodge, under date 21st May, 1826, and an answer thereto, a copy of which is on the — page of the letter book of this Lodge, to which they are referred.

Another resolution of the Grand Lodge, directing the Grand Secretary to procure a suitable box wherein to keep the records and papers of the Grand Lodge, and procure the necessary stationery for the use of the same, was, at an early day attended to, and the articles procured as directed.

A resolution of the Grand Lodge was passed at the Annual Communication in January, 1825, and continued at the Communication in January, 1826, recommending that subscriptions be opened in the several Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, to aid in the erection of a Masonic Hall, a notification of which resolution, with a copy thereof, was forwarded to each of the Subordinate Lodges, a copy of which notification will be found on the — page of the letter book of this Grand Lodge.

During the recess of the M. W. Grand Lodge, charters have been issued to Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, and Monroe Lodge, No. 13, in conformity with resolutions of the Grand Lodge to that effect.

At the last Annual Grand Communication, resolutions were passed directing the Grand Secretary to have one hundred copies of the proceedings thereof, and five hundred blank circulars of the Grand Officers printed, which has been done and a copy of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge forwarded to each of the Grand Lodges in the United States, and to the Subordinate Lodges of this Grand Lodge, as also, a circular of the Grand Officers elected at the last Grand Communication, with their signatures attached thereto, to each of the above named Grand Lodges.

During the recess of the M. W. Grand Lodge, circulars of officers of the following Grand Lodges have been received: Louisiana, New York, Indiana, Tennessee, Kentucky, Maine, Georgia, Vermont and Missouri; as also the annual proceedings of those which follow: Kentucky, for 1825 and 1826; Pennsylvania, Ohio, to which last is attached a copy of the By-Laws of the same, Alabama, District of Columbia, South Carolina for 1825 and 1826; North Carolina, Missouri, Virginia, Maryland, Louisiana, Illinois, (to which is attached the Constitution and By-Laws of the same,) and New Hampshire; also a special Communication from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. From a perusal of the above proceedings, the only circumstances interesting, as it is believed, to this Grand Lodge contained therein, and upon which they will now be called to express an opinion, is a resolution passed by the Grand Lodge of Maine, with respect to the manner of working in the Subordinate Lodges to that Grand Lodge, which resolution has been responded to by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and that response concurred in by the Grand Lodges of Kentucky and Missouri. For particulars of which, this Grand Lodge is respectfully referred to the above named proceedings.

Notice has been received from Hiram Lodge, No. 9, of the expulsion of G. Davis from that Lodge; and, also, a notice from Lafayette Lodge, of the expulsion of James Mayers—both for unmasonic conduct.

STURGES SPRAGUE,
Grand Secretary.

The Grand Master then announced the appointment of the following Committees:

To examine the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Papers—Bros. Jo Dunbar and D. Gordon.

On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. R. Parkinson, Jno. H. Duncan and E. Turner.

On Unfinished Business—Bros. James Smith and Lyne.

On Foreign Communications—Bros. Melvin and Cameron.

On Returns of Subordinate Lodges—Bros. Stewart and Hawley.

To Examine and Audit the Grand Steward's Account—Bros. Rowan and Brown.

A petition of appeal by George Davis, from the decision of Hiram Lodge expelling him, was presented and read, and, on motion,

Ordered, That the same, together with the accompanying documents, be referred to the Committee on Appeals and Grievances.

On motion and seconded, it is

Ordered, That the Committee on Appeals and Grievances, be authorized to call on the W. M. of Hiram Lodge, No. 9, for the journal of said Lodge, and all papers concerning the unpleasant affair between Bros. Jo. Dunbar and Davis and others.

On motion,

Ordered, That when this Grand Lodge adjourns, it will adjourn to 3 o'clock, P. M., on to-morrow.

On motion,

Ordered, That the Managers of the Grand Masonic Lottery, be requested to lay before the Grand Lodge a full statement of their proceedings, and the present state thereof.

On motion,

Ordered, That so much of the communication from the M. W. Grand Master, as relates to the building of a Masonic Hall in the city of Natchez, be referred to a Select Committee, and that said Committee be requested to report at the present Grand Communication.

Whereupon, Bros. R. Parkinson, James Smith, J. C. Hawley, J. J. Rowan and James M. Steel, were appointed said Committee.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until to-morrow at 3 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, January 2, 1827.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. R. PARKINSON.....	Grand Senior Warden, p. t.
JAMES SMITH.....	Grand Junior Warden, p. t.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
• STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Secretary.

JOHN H. DUNCAN.....Grand Senior Deacon, *p. t.*
 ROBERT STEWART.....Grand Junior Deacon.
 E. H. MILLER.....Grand Sword Bearer, *p. t.*
 JOSEPH NEWMAN.....Grand Steward and Tyler.

Member—Geo. Newman.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

Harmony, No. 1—Sturges Sprague, W. M.; Wm. Provan, S. W.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—R. Parkinson, W. M.; James M. Steel.

Warren, No. 4—John H. Duncan, S. W.

Asylum, No. 6—Tho. Lyne, S. W., and E. H. Wailes.

Rising Virtue, No. 7—D. Gordon, W. M.; James C. Hughes, S. W.; Jimmer-son Strother.

Hiram, No. 9—James Smith, W. M.; William B. Melvin, S. W.; F. Wood, J. W.

Benjamin Franklin, No. 11—John Cameron, S. W.; James C. Hawley and R. K. Pickett.

Lafayette, No. 12—Thos. P. Falkner, S. W.

Visitor—Andrew Jackson Yates, Holland Lodge, No. 16, New York.

The Committee to examine the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's books and papers, made the following report :

That they have been devoted to the performance of this duty, and have found the records of the Grand Secretary exempt from inaccuracy in every instance.

It was also enjoined on the Committee to examine the books of the Grand Treasurer. The report which he has submitted at the commencement of the present Communication, has so far disclosed the finances of the Grand Lodge as to supersede the necessity of further comment by the Committee.

His accounts appear to have been attended to with general accuracy, and would bear the most scrupulous examination. The Committee are unwilling to conclude the present report, without expressing their entire satisfaction at the critical exactness which is observed in this department of the Grand Lodge. With the exception of an item of ten dollars paid to Woodson Wren, for services rendered as Secretary, *pro. tem.*, at the last Annual Communication, the Committee have found authenticated vouchers to justify all the charges.

Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH DUNBAR,
 DAVID GORDON,
 Committee.

Which, on motion, was ordered to be received and agreed to.

On motion,

Ordered That the item of ten dollars in the Grand Treasurer's account claimed by Bro. Woodson Wren, for his services as Grand Secretary, *pro. tem.*, at the last Annual Communication, be not allowed to him.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances made the following report :

That no business of which they have cognizance coming before them, except, the case of Mr. George Davis, who was expelled from Hiram Lodge, No. 9, and from the great mass of matter appertaining to that case, and from the shortness of time, they have found it impossible to examine the papers belonging to it. They, therefore, beg leave to have further time, and that a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge be called, for the purpose of hearing and determining that case.

R. PARKINSON,
 JOHN H. DUNCAN,
 Committee.

Which, on motion, was received and ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee on Unfinished Business made the following report :

1st. That as the R. W. Christopher Rankin, who was appointed a Trustee on the part of this Grand Lodge, to act with others appointed by other Grand Lodges, on the subject of the Washington Monument, is dead, that the object of said appointment may be subserved, would recommend to this Grand Lodge the expediency of appointing another person for that purpose.

2d. On the subject of the Lottery and subscriptions of different Lodges for the purpose of creating a fund to be appropriated to the erection of a Grand Masonic Hall, that this Committee has been anticipated by other Committees.

3d. Your Committee find lying on the table, a resolution to amend the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, to-wit :

"That the third section of the second article of the Constitution of the R. W. Grand Lodge be amended, by authorizing any Past Master, being a member of this Grand Lodge, or of some Subordinate Lodge to this Lodge, to install the officers of Subordinate Lodges when it is inconvenient or impracticable for the M. W. Grand Master, or his Deputy, to attend, and to make a return of his proceedings to the M. W. Grand Master."

Which they recommend shall be carried into effect forthwith.

4th. They also find lying on the table another resolution, requiring one hundred copies of the Constitution and By-laws to be printed, which, as there are on hand a number of said copies, they think advisable and expedient to be rejected.

There appearing no other unfinished business, the above is respectfully submitted.

JAMES SMITH,
THOMAS LYNE,
Committee.

Which was received, and, on motion and seconded, it is ordered that the first clause of the report be adopted.

On motion and seconded, it is ordered by the Constitutional majority, that the third clause of the report be adopted, and that the same become an amendment to the Constitution of this Grand Lodge.

On motion,

Ordered, That the motion lying on the table, requiring one hundred copies of the Constitution and By-laws to be printed, be and the same is indefinitely postponed.

The Committee on Foreign Communications made the following report :

That they concur in the views of the M. W. Grand Master of the Lodge, concerning the right he possesses in granting dispensations to establish Lodges in the State of Louisiana. Your Committee, with all due deference to more experienced Masons, beg leave to state that, in their opinion, the M. W. Grand Master of this, or any other Grand Lodge, has the power, legally and agreeably to the ancient usages of the fraternity, to grant dispensations and charters for the purpose of establishing regular Lodges, not only in an adjoining State, but in any quarter of the globe. We beg leave, humbly to suggest, that in all future applications from any State, wherein a regular Grand Lodge shall be established, that this Grand Lodge do abstain from granting a dispensation or charter, until the views of said Grand Lodge shall be made known to this Grand Lodge, that the peace and harmony of the several Grand Lodges may thereby be maintained. Your Committee further take leave to state, that they cheerfully congratulate this Grand Lodge on the continued harmony that still exists between the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi, and that the thanks of the members of this Grand Lodge are due to our M. W. Grand Master for the conciliatory and magnanimous manner in which he has managed this subject.

Your Committee ask leave further to report, that communications have been received by our Grand Secretary from the several Grand Lodges of the States of Maine, Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Missouri, wherein the Grand Lodge of the

State of Maine, has granted permission to the Subordinate Lodges in that State to substitute the word "affirm" for the word — found on page 2, in a communication from the Grand Lodge of Maine, addressed to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Your Committee beg leave to declare that the word "affirm" ought not to be substituted for any other word used by the fraternity of this ancient institution, that all innovation ought to be discountenanced, that the ancient land marks and usages may remain inviolate.

Masonry is an universal language, and if additions, innovations, or substitutions are permitted from time to time, however trivial they may at first sight appear, will ultimately, in the opinion of your Committee, go greatly to impair, if not totally overthrow the grand and sublime principles of this humane and noble institution; therefore,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do not approve the principles laid down by the Grand Lodge of Maine, in their resolution of the 8th of January, 1824, and that they cannot recognize as a Mason, any person known to be initiated in the manner proposed by said Grand Lodge.

WM. B. MELVIN,
JOHN CAMERON,
Committee.

Which was received and ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee appointed to examine the returns of Subordinate Lodges made the following report :

That they have found the returns of the following Lodges, viz :

Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, Harmony Lodge, No. 1, Warren Lodge, No. 4, Asylum Lodge, No. 6, and Benj. Franklin Lodge, No. 11, correct.

The return from Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 7, appears correct upon the face of it, but by conversing with a representative of the Lodge, the Committee find that the return of the members of the Lodge is incorrect, those not having been included who have been raised in, and became members of said Lodge within the last year.

The return from Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, is correct, except that a recapitulation is not made out showing the number of its members, and the amount due the Grand Lodge.

The Committee further shows that there has not been any return made from Lodges Nos. 3, 5, 8 and 10.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. HAWLEY,
ROBERT STEWART.
Committee.

Which was received and ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, and seconded,

Ordered, That the Committee to examine and audit the Grand Stewart's accounts, have further time to report.

Bro. Parkinson having retired, Bro. E. Turner took his station by order of the Grand Master.

The following resolution was offered, and ordered to lie on the table :

Resolved, That the Managers of the Grand Masonic Lottery, of the State of Mississippi, be directed to call upon the agent for the amount due the Grand Lodge, and if not paid over by the first day of April next, that they be instructed to commence suit immediately upon the bond.

The Lodge was then called to refreshment for half an hour.

At the expiration of the above time, the Grand Lodge was called to labor.

On motion and seconded,

Ordered, That the return of Lafayette Lodge be received and corrected by the Grand Secretary, so far as relates to the recapitulation.

On motion and seconded,

Ordered, That the report of the Committee on the return of Subordinate Lodges, be recommitted to said Committee for amendment.

Bros. Robert Stewart, Howell Moss, Wm. Bramhall and Wm. Bisland, severally presented petitions to become members of this R.: W.: Grand Lodge, and, on being ballotted for, were declared duly elected.

A copy of a resolution of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No 2, appropriating the sum of five hundred dollars, to aid in the erection of a Masonic Hall, in the city of Natchez, was received from said Lodge, and also a statement that a subscription to the amount of four hundred dollars, had been obtained for the same purpose, by said Lodge.

A copy of a resolution of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, also appropriating the sum of five hundred dollars for the same purpose, was received, as also a statement that a subscription to the amount of twelve hundred dollars had been obtained for the same purpose by said Lodge.

A copy of a resolution adopted by the Natchez Royal Arch Chapter, appropriating the sum of one thousand dollars to aid in the erection of a Masonic Hall, in the city of Natchez. *Provided*, That the said Chapter have the sole and exclusive use of one room in the said hall, was also received, and the said appropriations accepted.

On motion and seconded,

Ordered, That the dispensations of Selected Friends and St. Albans Lodges, surrendered by them at the present Grand Communication, be accepted by this Grand Lodge.

On motion and seconded,

Ordered, That the Grand Lodge do now go into an election of officers for the same for the ensuing year.

The following resolution was offered, and, on motion and seconded, it was ordered to lie on table:

Resolved, That the M.: W.: Grand Master of this Lodge be requested to use his best endeavors to procure some distinguished Mason to deliver lectures to this Grand Lodge and Subordinate Lodges working under its authority, and that the sum of — dollars of the funds of this Lodge be appropriated to compensate said lecturer.

An election was then held, and the following persons were declared duly elected to the several offices annexed to their names:

M.: W.: JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.: THOMAS P. FALCONER.....	Deputy Grand Master.
RICHARD BEIN.....	Grand Junior Warden.
Rev. JAMES PILMORE.....	Grand Chaplain.
D. S. WALKER.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Secretary.
JAMES SMITH.....	Grand Marshal.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.
JIMMERSON STROTHER.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
GEORGE NEWMAN.....	Grand Pursuivant.

The M.: W.: Grand Master elect, appointed R.: W.: P. A. Vandorn Deputy Grand Master, who accepted the same.

The Grand Master also appointed John H. Duncan Grand Senior Deacon, and the Grand Senior Warden elect, appointed Robert Stewart Grand Junior Deacon.

The Grand Senior Warden was then duly installed as such, he being on the eve of his departure for his residence in Wayne county.

The following resolution was offered, and ordered to lie on the table:

Resolved, That it is expedient that the eighth section of the first article of the Constitution and By-laws of this Grand Lodge, of the State of Mississippi, be amended, so that after the next regular Grand Annual Communication, the regular Communications of this Lodge be held at Natchez, on the third Monday of February.

On motion and seconded,

Ordered, That this Grand Lodge do now adjourn until 10 o'clock A. M. of tomorrow.

MASONIC HALL, NATCHEZ, }
January 3, 1827. }

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....Grand Master.
R. W. P. A. VANDORN.....Deputy Grand Master.
ROBERT PARKINSON.....Grand Senior Warden, *p. t.*
JAMES SMITH.....Grand Junior Warden, *p. t.*
JAMES J. ROWAN.....Grand Treasurer.
STURGES SPRAGUE.....Grand Secretary.
GEORGE NEWMAN.....Grand Pursuivant.
R. K. PICKETT.....Grand Senior Deacon, *p. t.*
ROBERT STEWART.....Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....Grand Steward and Tyler.

Members—Wm. Bisland, D. S. Walker.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM SUBORDINATE LODGES.

Harmony, No. 1—Sturges Sprague, W. M.; Wm. Provan, S. W., and Wm Bramhall.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—R. Parkinson, W. M.; A. Brown and James M. Steel.

Washington, No. 3—P. A. Vandorn, W. M.

Asylum, No. 6—Thos. Lyne, S. W., and E. H. Wailes.

Rising Virtue, No. 7—Jimmerson Strother.

Hiram, No. 9—James Smith, W. M.; William B. Melvin, J. W., and F. Wood, J. W.

Benjamin Franklin, No. 11—R. K. Pickett, James C. Hawley, S. W.

Visitors—Charles Little, of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, and sundry other brethren.

The committee to examine the returns of Subordinate Lodges made the following amended report :

That they have examined the returns from the following Lodges, viz : Harmony Lodge, No. 1, Andrew Jackson, No. 2, Warren Lodge, No. 4, Asylum Lodge, No. 6, Rising Virtue, No. 7, Hiram Lodge, No. 9, Benjamin Franklin, No. 11, and LaFayette, No. 12, all of which they found correct. The committee further represents that from Lodges, Nos. 3, 5, 8, 10 and 13, there are no returns received.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. HAWLEY,
ROB. STEWART,

Committee.

Which was ordered to be received and placed on file.

Ordered, That the Lodge do now take up the consideration of the resolution offered yesterday, to change the time of holding the Annual Grand Communications of this Grand Lodge, and that it be adopted and lie over until the next Annual Grand Communication.

The select committee appointed to take into consideration, and report upon the expediency of erecting a Masonic Hall, made the following report :

That from the best information they can obtain, relative to the present state of the funds of this R. W. Grand Lodge, of which the Lodge is already in possession, and their future prospects, they do recommend that the said building be commenced this present year, and with as little delay as possible, and they further recommend the erection of an entire new, handsome building in preference to a purchase of any house already erected. And they further recommend that a select committee be appointed, who shall have power to select a suitable site, to receive plans and proposals and make contracts to carry into effect this grand object. They also recommend that a select committee be appointed to collect the monies already subscribed, and to obtain such other aid as is in their power, by further subscriptions. All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. PARKINSON,
JAS. J. ROWAN,
JAMES SMITH,
JAS. C. HAWLEY,

Committee.

Which was received, and

Ordered, That a committee of five be now appointed, to be styled the Building Committee.

Whereupon, John A. Quitman, Robert Stewart, Robert Parkinson, Sturges Sprague and William Provan, were appointed said committee.

Ordered, That a committee be appointed to draft a resolution, embracing the powers necessary to be given to the said Building Committee, to enable the same to accomplish the object contemplated by the select committee on the Masonic Hall in their report of to-day.

Whereupon, Bros. Joseph Dunbar, D. S. Walker and William B. Melvin, were appointed said committee.

The returns of Washington Lodge, No. 3, and Franklin Lodge, No. 10, were presented, and the same referred to the committee on the returns of Subordinate Lodges.

Ordered, That a committee be appointed to consist of three members, whose duty it shall be to examine the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and to propose such amendments thereto, as may be deemed proper and necessary for the government of this Grand Lodge, compatible with the universal principles of Masonry, and with the act of incorporation of this Grand Lodge.

Whereupon, Bros. D. S. Walker, Sturges Sprague and Joseph Dunbar, were appointed said committee.

The managers of the grand Masonic lottery presented the following communication from the agent thereof, addressed to them, as a report by them made upon the subject of the lottery :

NATCHEZ, January 3, 1827.

To the Managers of the Masonic Lottery to erect a Grand Masonic Hall in the city of Natchez :

GENTLEMEN—By a report of a committee from the Grand Lodge at a regular communication in January last, a balance of about \$2,200 was ascertained to be due by me as agent of the Masonic lottery, of which you are the managers.

This sum was to that time, and now is, acknowledged by me to be correct, and payment thereof was promised on the first of the present month.

It is, gentlemen, with the most sincere regret, that I find it out of my power to comply with my promise at this time; circumstances not anticipated by me or within my control, are offered as a reason for my failure in this instance. When I assure you that it is painful to me even to recur to those circumstances, I am persuaded you will excuse me for declining to enumerate them.

I will, gentlemen, most willingly enter into any arrangement with you in my power, to insure as speedily as possible, the payment of the amount due by me as your agent in the lottery; and if impressions to my prejudice have been made on the minds of any individual, respecting my agency in the business, I can only say, I am sorry for it, and I hope, ere long (if such impressions do exist,) an opportunity will be afforded me to prove how unjust such impressions are.

I am, gentlemen, respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. H. McCOMAS.

When, on motion,

Ordered, That this Lodge do now take up the resolution of Bro. Duncan, respecting the claim of the Grand Lodge upon the agent of the grand Masonic lottery, and the same be now considered, and

Ordered, That the resolution of Bro. Duncan, and the communication of the agent of the grand Masonic Hall lottery, addressed to the managers thereof, and by them reported to this Grand Lodge, be referred to a committee of three, to report as soon as practicable, at the present communication, what steps are necessary to be taken in the premises by the Grand Lodge.

Whereupon, the M. W. Grand Master and Bros. Rowan and Stewart were appointed said committee.

Bro. James Smith, Grand Marshal elect, being about to leave the Lodge to return home, was duly installed by the M. W. Grand Master, as Grand Marshal.

Ordered, That this Lodge do now adjourn until 5 o'clock, P. M., of to-day.

FIVE O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The committee who were appointed to draft a resolution defining and embracing the powers to be given to the Building Committee, made a report,

Which, on motion was ordered to lie on the table.

Ordered, That the Grand Lodge do now take up the consideration of said report—

And, after sundry amendments made thereto, it was ordered that the resolution contained therein be adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That the Building Committee of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, or a majority of them, be instructed and authorized in the name and on the behalf of this corporation, to select and purchase a suitable site, for the erection of a Masonic Hall, in the most eligible quarter of the city of Natchez; to invite and receive plans and proposals therefor; and, as soon as the Committee shall deem the available fund sufficient for that purpose, to make contracts for the erection and completion of the hall in such manner, that the first or basement story, will produce the best possible rent; and that suitable rooms be provided therein for the accomodation of the Grand Lodge, the Chapter, and the Subordinate Lodges; that the said Committee be instructed to require good and sufficient security for the faithful performance of all contracts, and not to advance more than twenty-five per cent. from time to time, to the contractors on the amount or proportion of their contracts uncompleted.

Resolved, That the said Committee be further authorized to draw on the treasurer of the Grand Lodge, for all funds appropriated for the building of the Masonic Hall, by their draft, signed by the chairman, and countersigned by their secretary; to convert the bank stock of the Grand Lodge into money, by sale thereof for the best price, and apply the same to this purpose; and to borrow a sum not exceeding \$5000, if necessary, at a rate of interest not exceeding eight per cent. per annum, in the name of this Grand Lodge, and that the real estate of the same be mortgaged, in order better to secure the payment thereof.

Resolved, That if the funds of the Grand Lodge should not be found by the said Building Committee, or a majority of them, sufficient for the completion of the hall, then the said Committee are further authorized to create and dispose of an amount of stock sufficient for that purpose, and not exceeding the sum of \$10,000 in shares of \$50 each. And that certificates be issued to the purchasers of said stock under the seal of the corporation, signed by the M. W. Grand Master and countersigned by the Grand Secretary; and that the said stock bear an interest not exceeding eight per cent. per annum payable half yearly, and redeemable at the pleasure of the Grand Lodge; and that the said stock be offered first to the Chapters, Lodges, and individual brethren, who have subscribed for the erection of the hall, in proportion to their respective subscriptions; but the said original subscriptions are not to be included in, or considered any part of said stock.

Resolved, That said Building Committee be instructed to insure said building as soon as they shall deem it proper to be done, against fire, the better to secure the property of the Grand Lodge, and the payment of such debts as may be contracted by said Lodge; and be it

Further resolved, That the said Building Committee be authorized to ask for and receive such subscriptions and donations as may be offered for the erection of said Masonic Hall.

The committee on returns of Subordinate Lodges made the following additional report:

That they have examined the returns of the following Lodges, viz: Washington, No. 3, Franklin, No. 10, St. Albans Lodge, under dispensation, and Selected Friends, also under dispensation, and have found them correct.

J. C. HAWLEY,
ROB. STEWART,
Committee.

Which was ordered to be received and filed.

The special committee, to whom was referred the resolution and communication in relation to the funds of the Lodge, in the hands of the agent of the lottery, respectfully report:

That they have had an interview with the agent in which they requested him

to make some proposition for the payment of the debt which he owes. The agent informed the Committee that he was at present unable to pay the debt; but declared that he ever was, and now is, willing to give up all the property he possesses for the security and payment of the debt. That in case the Grand Lodge should think proper to commence legal proceedings, the agent declared that he would not throw any difficulty in the way of a speedy recovery. In short, that he knew he was liable for the amount, and his only desire is, that the debt should be paid as soon as possible. The agent further stated, that he would this evening make an attempt to procure the endorsement of John Minor for the amount of said debt, payable during the present year, and would report the result of his endeavors this evening to the committee.

Your committee therefore report progress, and pray leave until to-morrow, to report finally on this subject.

JOHN A. QUITMAN,
ROBERT STEWART,
JAMES J. ROWAN,
Committee.

Ordered, That the same be received and agreed to.

Ordered, That the Grand Lodge do now take up and consider the report of the committee on foreign communications.

Ordered, That the resolution appended to said report be adopted.

Ordered, That the Grand Lodge do now take up and consider the first clause of the report of the Committee on Unfinished Business; and,

Ordered, That Bro. William Haile, our representative in Congress, be appointed trustee in the place of deceased Bro. Rankin, to co-operate with the trustees of other Grand Lodges relative to the erection of a monument, at Mount Vernon, over the remains of our deceased and venerated brother, George Washington, and that the Grand Secretary inform him of this appointment.

Ordered, That the following preamble and resolution be adopted :

WHEREAS, Covington Lodge, No. 8, subordinate to this Grand Lodge, has failed, for two successive Grand Annual Communications, to send representatives to this Grand Lodge; and are also, in arrears for two years' dues and contributions; and

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the same requires that when any Subordinate Lodge shall fail to send representatives to this Grand Lodge, and shall be in arrears for two years' dues and contributions, that said Lodge shall be suspended from its labors, and that the Grand Secretary shall notify the said Lodge of the same; therefore,

Resolved, That Covington Lodge, No. 8, be suspended from its labors, and unless said Lodge pays up its arrearages of dues, at or before the meeting of the Grand Lodge at their next Annual Grand Communication, and send representatives from said Lodge to the Grand Lodge at the above specified communication, that the charter or warrant be withdrawn, and that the Grand Secretary notify said Lodge of this preamble and resolution.

The following preamble and resolution were adopted :

WHEREAS, Selected Friends and St. Albans Lodges are located in State of Louisiana; and,

WHEREAS, The said Lodges have surrendered their dispensations to this R. W. Grand Lodge, for the purpose of receiving charters from our sister Grand Lodge of Louisiana; therefore,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do most earnestly and respectfully recommend our brothers of Selected Friends and St. Albans Lodges to the maternal care of the R. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, and deem them eminently worthy of her fostering protection.

Ordered, That the Grand Lodge do now appoint some experienced Mason as a Grand Lecturer, agreeably to the 10th section of the 1st article of the Constitution.

Whereupon the Lodge were unable to make an appointment, for the want of a suitable Mason who would accept the appointment.

Ordered, That the resolution respecting a Grand Lecturer be now taken up and considered.

On motion to adopt the same, it was lost.

Ordered, That another person be added to Committee on Appeals and Grievances.

Whereupon Bro. D. S. Walker was added to said committee.

Ordered, That this Grand Lodge do now adjourn until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

JANUARY 4, 1827.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. P. A. VANDORN.....	Deputy Grand Master.
J. DUNBAR.....	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
ROBERT PARKINSON.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Secretary.
R. K. PICKETT.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges:

Harmony No. 1—Sturges Sprague, W. M., and Wm. Provan.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—R. Parkinson, W. M., A. Brown.

Washington, No. 3—P. A. Vandorn, W. M.

Rising Virtue, No. 7—Jimmerson Strother.

Hiram, No. 9—James Smith, Wm. B. Melvin and F. Wood.

Members—George Newman, J. Pilmore, E. Turner, D. S. Walker, and sundry brethren visiting.

The M. W. Grand Master elect, John A. Quitman, was duly installed by the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, as Grand Master; who thereupon proceeded to install the following officers:

WM. PROVAN, proxy for R. BEIN.....	Grand Junior Warden.
REV. JAMES PILMORE.....	Grand Chaplain.
D. S. WALKER.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Secretary.
WM. B. MELVIN, proxy for JNO. H. DUNCAN.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
R. STEWART.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JIMMERSON STROTHER.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
GEORGE NEWMAN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances, made the following report in the case of G. Davis :

That after as minute and careful an examination of all the voluminous documents accompanying this appeal, as the time allowed the Committee permitted, they find that the proceedings of Hiram Lodge, No. 9, against Brother Davis, are irregular and not in accordance with the by-laws of the said Lodge, nor with the rules of Masonry, inasmuch as the 2d section of the 7th article of the by-laws of the said Lodge, requires, that for unmasonic conduct, the offending brother should be "summoned by the W. M. to appear and make his defence," etc., and the rules of Masonry require that charges and specifications in writing should be made out, and a copy delivered to the offending brother, and time given him to make his defence, and the Lodge should then proceed to hear the charges and defence with the testimony, before they pass sentence, which shall refer to the particular specification, of which he is found guilty. All which is prescribed or necessarily implied in the by-laws of said Lodge; but which formalities have not been pursued in the present case.

At the same time the Committee in justice to themselves, and Hiram Lodge, No. 9, are compelled to say, that from the documents and testimony before them, not only the charges of brother Davis against the Lodge, appear wholly unfounded; but his own conduct to individual brethren, to the committee of Hiram Lodge, and to the Lodge itself, is highly indecorous and unmasonic, and well merit some severe punishment, unless amply atoned for.

But your Committee cannot consent to approve of any violation of the rules of Masonry, especially in the deprivation of a brother of his masonic privileges, however unmasonic his conduct may have been, and however forbearing his Lodge, as they find Hiram Lodge in this case has been. Therefore the committee, perceiving ample grounds for charges against Bro. Davis, but having no jurisdiction of the case *de novo*, and the proceedings in the Subordinate Lodge appearing to them irregular, recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the case of Bro. G. Davis, an appeal from the sentence of expulsion from Hiram Lodge, No. 9, be remanded to said Lodge for further proceedings therein, according to the by-laws of said Lodge, and the rules of Masonry, and the principles embraced in this report.

R. PARKINSON, Chairman.

Ordered, That said report lie on the table.

Ordered, That the Lodge do now take up and consider the foregoing report ; whereupon,

On motion that the report and resolution be received and adopted, it was lost.

Ordered, That the following preamble and resolution be adopted :

WHEREAS, An appeal has been taken to this R. W. Grand Lodge by G. Davis, from the decision of Hiram Lodge, No. 9, expelling him from the same ; therefore,

Resolved, That said appeal be granted, and that Hiram Lodge be cited by the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, to file with the said Secretary their charges and specifications against the said George Davis, within thirty days from the service of said citation, and that immediately upon filing of said charges and specifications with the Grand Secretary, that he be directed to serve a copy of the same upon the said Davis, by the hands of the Grand Tyler, and summon the said Davis, to be and appear at a Special Communication of the Grand Lodge, to be held on the — day of March, 1827, for the purpose of hearing the said appeal.

Ordered, That the blank in the above resolution be filled with the "first Monday" in March.

The committee on the subject of the funds in the hands of the agent of the Masonic Hall Lottery, made the following additional report :

That having received no communication from the agent of the lottery, on the subject of the funds in his hands, recommend the following amendment to the resolution before them, to-wit:

After the words April next, "or if arrangements deemed satisfactory by the managers, or a majority of them, for the punctual payment of the debt within the present year, be not made by the agent or his security." With such amendment, your Committee recommend the passage of the resolution submitted to them.

JOHN A. QUITMAN,
ROBERT STEWART,
JAMES J. ROWAN,
Committee.

Which was ordered to be received and adopted; and it was further

Ordered, That the resolution respecting the funds in the hands of the agent of the Masonic Hall Lottery, as recommended by the foregoing report to be amended, be adopted.

Ordered, That this Grand Lodge do now adjourn until half past 2 o'clock, P. M.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The committee appointed to examine and propose amendments to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, made the following report:

That they have had the subject under consideration; but from the little time that they have been able to devote to it, are not now prepared to make a general report on the same. But from a cursory view of the subject submitted to them, respectfully recommend that the word "January," in the fourth section of the first article, of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, be stricken out, and the word "February" inserted therein, and also the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the word "January" in the fourth section of the first article, of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, be stricken out and the word "February" inserted therein.

J. DUNBAR,
S. SPRAGUE,
D. S. WALKER,
Committee.

Ordered, That the report be received, and the resolution adopted; which lies over of course until the next Annual Grand Communication.

The committee to audit the Grand Steward and Tyler's accounts, reported that they had examined the accounts amounting to seventy dollars, and recommend the allowance thereof; which was ordered to be done.

Ordered, That the account of Bro. Jos. Newman, amounting to seventeen dollars, for curtains, etc., be allowed.

Ordered, That J. Neibert's account, amounting to twenty-five dollars and fifty-one cents, for carpenter's work and materials found, be allowed.

Ordered, That one hundred copies of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge be printed, and one copy thereof be forwarded to the present and past Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge, to each of the Subordinate Lodges, and to each of the Grand Lodges in North America; that the Grand Secretary procure the same to be printed, and draw on the Grand Treasurer for the amount thereof.

Ordered, That after this Grand Annual Communication, no returns of Subordinate Lodges shall be received, unless the seal of said Lodge be attached thereto.

Ordered, That the following resolution be adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be returned to the Grand Secretary, for the very perfect manner in which he has arranged, and the systematic manner in which he keeps the papers of this Grand Lodge.

No further business appearing, the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form and Due Harmony.

STURGES SPRAGUE, Grand Secretary.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

NATCHEZ, March 5, 1827.

A Special Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, was begun and held agreeably to notice given to that effect, at the Masonic Hall in the city of Natchez, on Monday, March 5th, 1827, A. L. 5827.

PRESENT :

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. P. A. VANDORN.....	Deputy Grand Master.
RICHARD BIEN.....	Grand Senior Warden <i>p. t.</i>
JAMES SMITH.....	Grand Junior Warden <i>p. t.</i>
J. J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
S. SPRAGUE.....	Grand Secretary.
W. WREN.....	Grand Senior Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
R. STEWART.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
GEORGE NEWMAN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Members—W. Wren, Thomas Barnard, Wm. Bisland, Howell Moss, G. Newman, and Amos Whiting.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

Harmony, No. 1—S. Sprague, W. M.; Wm. Provan, and W. Bramhall.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—R. Parkinson, W. M.; James Cornell, and A. Brown.

Washington, No. 3—A. Whiting, Jos. Nichols, G. B. Crutcher.

Warren, No. 4—P. T. Williams.

Columbus, No. 5—James Sims.

Hiram, No. 9—James Smith, Wm. B. Melvin, and F. Wood.

Benj. Franklin, No. 11—R. Bein, J. Cameron, George Davis.

Visiting Brethren—W. C. Grissam, H. Emerson, P. F. Merrick, R. M. Gaines, John R. Girault, and J. J. Hughes, of Harmony, No. 1; E. Whittemore, A. Bingham, H. M'lllheron, S. Cotton, and E. H. Miller, of Andrew Jackson, No. 2; John Steel, of Warren, No. 4; J. C. Hawley, of Benj. Franklin, No. 11; F. M. Edrington, of Hiram, No. 9; Fountain Perry, of Temple Lodge, No. 64, Kentucky, and sundry other brethren.

The M. W. Grand Master announced to the Grand Lodge, that this Communication had been called to hear the appeal of Bro. George Davis, from a decision of expulsion against him, by Hiram Lodge. And he further announced that James Smith, W. M., Wm. B. Melvin, S. W., and F. Wood, J. W., of said Lodge, had been appointed to conduct the prosecution before this Grand Lodge.

Bro. James Smith thereupon begged leave to surrender his jewel as Grand Junior Warden *pro tem.*, and leave his station; which was granted, and Bro. R. Parkinson directed to take the jewel and station.

Ordered, That the charge and specifications filed by Hiram Lodge against Bro. George Davis be read.

Which being done, he was directed by the Grand Lodge to admit or contradict the same. Whereupon he denied the charge and specifications to be true; and the managers proceeded to introduce testimony in support of the charge and specifications.

After some time spent in the examination of the testimony, the Grand Lodge, on motion, ordered an adjournment until 9 o'clock on to-morrow morning.

MARCH 6, 1827.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. R. BIEN.....	Grand Senior Warden. <i>p. t.</i>
R. PARKINSON.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
J. J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer,
STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Secretary.
A. WHITING.....	Grand Senior Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
GEORGE NEWMAN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Members—W. Wren, Tho. Barnard, Wm. Bisland, H. Moss, George Newman and Amos Whiting.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

Harmony, No. 1—Sturges Sprague, Wm. Provan and W. Bramhall.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—R. Parkinson, J. Cornell and A. Brown.

Washington, No. 3—A Whiting, J. Nichols, G. B. Crutcher.

Warren, No. 4—P. T. Williams.

Columbus, No. 5—James Sims.

Hiram, No. 9—Jas. Smith, W. B. Melvin, F. Wood.

Benjamin Franklin, No. 11—R. Bein, J. Cameron.

Bro. P. T. Williams, W. M. of Warren Lodge, No. 4, obtained leave of absence for the remainder of this Communication.

Bro. J. C. Hawley produced an authorization from Bro. Williams to act as his proxy, and was accordingly admitted to take his seat as such.

Ordered, That Hiram Lodge, No. 9, produce to this Grand Lodge, all the original papers relating to the difference and expulsion of Bro. Davis from that Lodge.

The Grand Secretary presented the return from Columbus Lodge, No. 5, and the proceedings of Selected Friends Lodge, and it was ordered that they be referred to the Committee on the Returns of Subordinate Lodges.

Ordered, That the Grand Lodge adjourn until 3 o'clock, P. M., of to-day.

THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

In addition to the Officers of the Grand Lodge before named, D. S. Walker, the Grand Orator, appeared and took his seat.

The evidence for the prosecution and for Bro. George Davis having been closed, Bro. Davis addressed the Grand Lodge in his defence; after which, all but members of the Grand Lodge having retired,

Ordered, That this Grand Lodge do now proceed to ballot upon each specification of the charge separately.

The Grand Master decided that each member of the Grand Lodge was entitled to but one vote, unless the member voting produced an authorization as proxy from some other member, to vote on this occasion. And on appeal to the Grand Lodge, the appeal was not sustained.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to take the ballot on the specifications of the charge against Bro. Davis, and, on counting the ballots, it appeared that on the 1st, 3d, 5th and 7th specifications, he was found not guilty; that on the 2d, 4th, 6th, 8th and 9th, he was found guilty.

Whereupon it is

Ordered and decreed, That the sentence of Hiram Lodge, expelling the said Bro. Davis from the benefits of Masonry, for and during his natural life, be so far altered, annulled and modified, as to extend and be in force only for the space of five years, from the day of the date of this order.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary communicate to Bro. G. Davis the order that the Grand Lodge have made on his appeal.

The petition of Bro. Monroe Robitaille was presented for membership, and on balloting for the same, he was declared duly elected.

The Committee on Returns of Subordinate Lodges, made the following additional report:

That they have examined the return made by Columbus Lodge, No. 5, and the record of the proceedings of Selected Friends Lodge, in Clinton, La., working under dispensation from this Grand Lodge, and find them, as far as they can ascertain, correct.

J. C. HAWMEY,
ROB. STEWART,
Committee.

Ordered, That the same be received and filed.

Ordered, That the proceedings of this Special Communication of the Grand Lodge, be incorporated and printed with the proceedings at the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge in January last.

The M.: W.: Grand Master presented a communication from P.: G.: M.: Loring to him, and it was

Ordered, That the same be referred to a Select Committee, and that said Committee report at the next Annual Grand Communication.

Whereupon, Bros. T. Barnard and S. Sprague were appointed that Committee.

No more business appearing, the Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form and Due Harmony.

ATTEST :

STURGES SPRAGUE, Grand Secretary.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION.

NATCHEZ, June 25, 1827.

A Special Communication of the R.: W.: Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi was called by the M.: W.: Grand Master, and held at the court-house this day, for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the Masonic Hall, about to be erected in the City of Natchez.

PRESENT.

M.: W.: JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.: P. A. VANDORN.....	Deputy Grand Master.
J. T. MAGRUDER.....	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
WM. PROVAN.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
REV. JAMES PILMORE.....	Grand Chaplain.
D. S. WALKER.....	Grand Orator.
J. J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
S. SPRAGUE.....	Grand Secretary.
JAMES SMITH.....	Grand Marshal.
GEO. NEWMAN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOHN H. DUNCAN.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Members—P.: G.: M.: Henry Tooley, W. Wren, M. Robitaille and Wm. Bisland.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges :

Harmony, No. 1—Sturges Sprague, Wm. Provan, and Wm. Bramhall.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—R. Parkinson, A. Brown.

Washington, No. 3—T. B. Magruder, Wm. Davis and Jno. H. Esty.

Warren, No. 4—John H. Duncan, proxy.

Hiram, No. 9—J. Smith, Wm. B. Melvin and F. Wood.

Benjamin Franklin, No. 11—Jno. Cameron, R. K. Pickett.

Clinton, (under dispensation,)—W. W. Walker.

Visitors—John Forsyth, Spence M. Grayson, F. M. Edrington, James F. Stewart, Willis D. John, Campbell McCay, Jacob Shur, John R. Girault, James M. Steel, F. G. Turnbull, B. F. West, John Harding, William Campbell, John Lombard, John Casey, Levi C. Harris, Philip Hughes, Absalom Johnson, Israel Spencer, P. Nugent, Elijah Cheatham, W. J. Brewer, James B. Moore, Isaac Lum, Hiram McFarren, Wm. Bruce, John Whiteman, Peter T. Robb, J. A. Gibson, David Longacre, John Port, James P. Cain, Nat. Harrison, Jr., Nat. Harrison, Sen., Jos. Greene, Henry K. Moss, John M. Curtis, John D. Gray, A. Dunbar, Martin W. Ewing, A. W. Breedlove, Wm. Hunt, Tho. Coates, David Dunn, Lem. Pruett, Michael Holliman, P. Gardner, James Douglas, John B. Watson, A. Penncost, W. S. Purdue, A. P. Cobler, S. Marble, Sam. Cotton, H. Gridley, John Darnell, E. Newman, J. W. Tremble, James Edwards, A. Brown, James O'Bryan, W. Johns, Geo. Robinson, E. Mentoyné, M. Robitaille, John Slocumb, Francis Kenan, John H. Knighton, R. C. Langdon, A. D. Spriggs and M. C. Middleton.

After prayers by the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was opened in the Third Degree of Masonry.

The following ceremony, prescribed by the Grand Master, was then read :

1. The Grand Lodge will convene at the court house at 10 o'clock, A. M.
2. The procession will be formed at 11 o'clock and proceed to the site of the hall.
3. After silence commanded by the Grand Marshal, a prayer by the Grand Chaplain.
4. Solemn music.
5. A short address by the Grand Master.
6. The relics will be deposited under the stone.
7. The stone will then be laid with the usual ceremonies.
8. Music (Pleyel's hymn.)
9. The vessels of corn, wine and oil will then be handed to the Grand Master, and the stone consecrated, with some remarks.
10. After the stone shall have been struck, the Masonic honors will be given, and flourish of music.
11. The working tools are then presented to the architect.
12. Music.

The procession will then again be formed and move to the Episcopal church, where a prayer will be made by the Grand Chaplain, and address delivered by the Grand Orator; after which the procession will return to the Lodge room.

The following order of procession, prescribed by the Grand Marshal, was then read and ordered to be observed :

Music, five paces in advance.
Two Tylers, with drawn swords.
Two Stewards, with white rods.

Master Masons, marching two and two in blue sashes.

Royal Arch Chapter, marching by threes, and preceded by their Sentinel, with drawn sword.

Grand Lodge, preceded by their Grand Tyler, followed by the Holy Bible; the Grand Master in the rear.

After the ceremony of laying the corner stone is over, the procession will observe precisely the same order in proceeding from thence to the church, and in return from the church to the Lodge room.

The Grand Lodge was then called to refreshment, and the procession, under

the direction of the Grand Marshal, assisted by Bros. R. Parkinson and James F. Stewart, as deputies, formed and proceeded to the site selected for the erection of the Grand Masonic Hall, and the corner stone of the same was laid in Ample Form and with Ancient Ceremonies. After which, the procession proceeded to the Episcopal Church, where an address was pronounced by the Grand Orator, at the conclusion of which, the procession was again formed and returned to the court house, and thereupon, the R.: W.: Grand Lodge was called from refreshment to labor.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Building Committee be instructed to call upon the M.: W.: Grand Master, R.: W.: Grand Orator, and the Grand Architect, and solicit from them a copy of their several addresses delivered this day, for publication, and that the same be published together with the proceedings of this day.

No further business appearing, after prayers by the Grand Chaplain, this R.: W.: Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form and Due Harmony.

ATTEST:

STURGES SPRAGUE, Grand Secretary.

TENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1828.

NATCHEZ, January 7, 1828.

PRESENT :

R. W.: PETER A. VANDORN Deputy Grand Master.
THOMAS P. FALCONER Grand Senior Warden.
RICHARD BEIN Grand Junior Warden.
JAMES J. ROWAN Grand Treasurer.
STURGES SPRAGUE Grand Secretary.
JAMES SMITH Grand Senior Deacon, *p. t.*
ROBERT STEWART Grand Junior Deacon.
JOSEPH NEWMAN Grand Stewart and Tyler.

The following Representatives from Subordinate Lodges produced their credentials and took their seats :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—S. Sprague, R. M. Gaines.
Andrew Jackson, No. 2—R. Parkinson, Samuel Cotton.
Warren, No. 4—B. F. West.
Columbus. No. 5—S. Sprague, proxy.
Asylum, No. 6.—Josh A. Foster.
Hiram, No. 9—James Smith, T. M. Edrington, Hiram McFarren.
Ben Franklin, No. 11—Richard Bein.
Lafayette, No. 12—Edwin G. Powe, C. S. Powe.
Selected Friends, U. D.—John Nixon.
Jefferson, U. D.—Lewis Clarke.
Clinton, U. D.—John J. Wilkins.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form in the Third Degree.

The Grand Treasurer reported that the receipts for the year 1827 were \$2792.63, including a balance of \$252.63 on hand at the commencement of the year, and that the expenditures for the same period were \$2843.03, leaving a deficit of \$47.75.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 3 o'clock p. m., to-morrow.

NATCHEZ, January 8, 1828.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Unfinished Business reported the following resolutions :

Resolved, That it is expedient that the eighth section of the first article of the Constitution and By-laws of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, be amended so that after the next regular Grand Communication, the regular Communications of this Grand Lodge be held at Natchez, on the third Monday of February.

Resolved, That the word "January," in the fourth section of the first article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, be stricken out, and the word "February" inserted therein.

Which, having been laid over according to the constitution, were adopted.

The Committee on Foreign Communications made the following report :

That the proceedings of the several Grand Lodges of the States of Maine, Kentucky, Alabama, Missouri, Maryland, Ohio, Massachusetts, Indiana, Vermont, New Jersey, South Carolina, Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, New Hampshire, Louisiana and the District of Columbia, have been received by the Grand Secretary, since the last Grand Annual Communication ; in which they find nothing to recommend to the attention of this Grand Lodge, except the suspensions and expulsions contained therein, which, it is the opinion of your committee, ought to be published in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, annually.

Your Committee beg leave further to report, that circulars of the signatures of the officers of the Grand Lodges of Louisiana, Kentucky, New Jersey, South Carolina and Indiana, have also been received by the Grand Secretary ; also a communication from the Grand Lodge of Michigan Territory, requesting the Grand Lodge of this State to recognize said Grand Lodge, and to forward them a copy of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge. Their communication purports to have been accompanied with a Constitution of said Grand Lodge, but as the constitution has not been received, your Committee respectfully suggest that the Grand Secretary notify the Grand Lodge of Michigan Territory, of the receipt of the communication unaccompanied with its Constitution. In consequence of which failure it is the opinion of this Committee that this Grand Lodge ought not to recognize the Grand Lodge of Michigan Territory as a regular Grand Lodge until its Constitution shall have been received, and found in accordance with the general principles of Masonry.

Your Committee would further call the attention of this Grand Lodge to an amendment to the general regulations of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, passed on the 7th of April, 1827, which prohibits the admission of any visiting brother, unless he be the bearer of a diploma from his Lodge, or from the Grand Lodge by which his Lodge is constituted, unless he be well recommended by known brethren ; and would respectfully submit the following resolution :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do not approve of the principles contained in the resolution of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, passed the 7th of April, 1827.

R. BEIN,
JOS. A. FOSTER.
Committee.

Which, on motion, was ordered to be received and lie on the table.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That that part of the report of the Committee on Foreign Communications, made at the last Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, so far as it respects to the right of this Grand Lodge to grant dispensations and charters without the limits of the State of Mississippi, be concurred in.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That charters be granted to Selected Friends Lodge, No. 14, to Jefferson Lodge, No. 15, and to Clinton Lodge, No. 16.

The following preamble and resolution were adopted :

WHEREAS, Monroe Lodge, No. 13, subordinate to this Grand Lodge, has

failed for two successive Grand Annual Communications to send representatives to the Grand Lodge, and are also in arrears for two years dues and contributions; and,

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the same requires that when any Subordinate Lodge shall fail to send representatives to this Grand Lodge, and shall be in arrears for two year's dues and contributions, that said Lodge shall be suspended from its labors, and that the Grand Secretary shall notify said Lodge of the same; therefore,

Resolved, That Monroe Lodge, No. 13, be suspended from its labors, and unless said Lodge pays its arrearages of dues, at or before the meeting of the Grand Lodge, at their next Grand Annual Communication, and send representatives from said Lodge to the Grand Lodge at the above specified Communication, that the charter be withdrawn, and that the Grand Secretary notify said Lodge of this preamble and resolution.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Communications was then taken up, and on motion it was

Resolved, That said report be concurred in, and the resolution appended thereto be adopted.

James Smith offered the following amendment to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, which lays on the table until the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the second section of the first article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, be so amended as to read as follows: Sec. 2. The Grand Lodge shall not be opened for business except there be present the officers or representatives of a majority of the whole number of the chartered Lodges under its Jurisdiction.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following persons were declared duly elected, to-wit:

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
RICHARD BEIN.....	Grand Senior Warden.
JOHN NIXON.....	Grand Junior Warden.
REV. JAMES A. FOX.....	Grand Chaplain.
R. M. GAINES.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Secretary.
JAMES SMITH.....	Grand Marshal.
JAMES NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.
C. S. POWE.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
ERICH H. MILLER.....	Grand Pursuivant.

The following resolution was offered and ordered to lie on the table:

Resolved, That in all future elections of this Grand Lodge, a majority of all the voters present shall be necessary to complete a choice, and in all cases where no brethren shall have a majority at the first ballot, the balloting shall continue until a majority is obtained in favor of some one brother.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until to-morrow at 10 o'clock, A. M.

NATCHEZ, January 9, 1828.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The officers elect were then presented to the R. W. Deputy Grand Master,

and duly installed. Past Grand Master Edward Turner was installed as the proxy for John A. Quitman, Grand Master.

The following resolutions were offered and adopted :

Resolved, That when this Grand Lodge adjourn, it will adjourn to meet on the third Monday in February next, and that the Grand Secretary notify the several Subordinate Lodges thereof.

Resolved, That the M.: W.: Grand Master be requested to address a respectful note to each of the Subordinate Lodges working under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, earnestly requesting their support in the building of the Grand Masonic Hall, which this Grand Lodge has undertaken ; and stating to those Lodges the absolute necessity of assistance being had.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to our worthy brother, Peter A. Vandorn, R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master, for the able and faithful discharge of the duties devolved upon him as Grand Master, and for his prompt compliance with the resolution of this Grand Lodge, requesting him to lecture, etc.

No further business being before the Grand Lodge, it was adjourned until the third Monday in February next.

ATTEST :

STURGES SPRAGUE, Grand Secretary.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1829.

NATCHEZ, February 16, 1829.

PRESENT :

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. ROBT. PARKINSON.....	Deputy Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
THOS. P. FALCONER.....	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
JOHN CAMERON.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
P. F. MERRICK.....	Grand Secretary, <i>p. t.</i>
LEWIS CLARKE.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
BENJ. F. STOCKTON.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
ERICH H. MILLER.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form in the Third Degree.

The following Representatives from Subordinate Lodges presented their credentials and took their seats :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—R. M. Gaines, P. F. Merrick.

Annew Jackson, No. 2—R. Parkinson, A. Brown, A. D. Spriggs.

Washington, No. 3—Benj. F. Stockton.

Asylum, No. 6—Asa Kimbal.

Benj. Franklin, No. 11—J. Cameron, J. Slocumb, J. C. Middleton.

Selected Friends, No. 14—W. P. Satterfield.

Jefferson, No. 15—Lewis Clarke.

Clinton, No. 16—J. B. Morgan.

Members—Robert Stewart, Duncan S. Walker, Aaron Wager, M. Robitaille, and a number of Visiting Brethren.

The following Lodges were not represented :

Warren, No. 4, Columbus, No. 5, Rising Virtue, No. 7, Hiram, No. 9, Franklin, No. 10, Lafayette, No. 12, Monroe, No. 13.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master made the following report of his official transactions since the last Grand Annual Communication :

BRETHREN—I submit to you a brief retrospect of occurrences during the past year, some of which may demand your attention during the present session. I regret to state that the differences which have for some time existed between the Masonic authorities of this State and those of the sister State of Louisiana, have not yet been fully adjusted. This subject will deserve the attention of a distinct Committee, who will be furnished with all the documents and corres-

pondence relating thereto. I have the satisfaction to know that my course throughout this affair has met the sanction of this Grand Lodge. Let us, however, examine our acts, and if we have erred let not false pride deter us from retracing our steps.

Since the last Annual Communication I have granted a dispensation to a number of brethren residing in the neighborhood of Benton, Yazoo county. An application for a charter may be expected from them. Agreeably to a resolution of the Grand Lodge, legal steps have been taken by the Managers of the Lottery for the collection of arrears due by the late agent of the Masonic Lottery. No opposition having been made, a judgment has been obtained, and the claim is now in fair prospect of settlement. An agreement for this purpose between myself and the agent will be submitted to you.

The new Masonic Hall is in a state of forwardness, and will, I hope, be completed during the present spring. The erection of this fine edifice has required great energy and heavy responsibilities from a few brethren residing in this neighborhood. The Natchez Royal Arch Chapter, and the Lodges held in Natchez and Washington, have contributed liberally to this laudable object. I trust that even the more distant Lodges will consider it an object worthy of their liberality.

Brethren, the noble cause of Masonry still flourishes in this State. The whirlwind of prejudice which now rages in the Northern section of the Union, is known and felt here, but as a distant rumor—an empty sound. It must spend itself long before it can reach our happy clime. In this enlightened community we have no organized opposition to encounter; let us not, however, relax in our exertions to do good, and to obtain as well as deserve our good name.

JOHN A. QUITMAN.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then announced the appointment of the following Standing Committees:

To Examine the Books and Papers of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary—H. McFarren, A. D. Spriggs.

To Examine and Audit the Accounts of the Grand Steward and Tyler—R. Stewart and A. Wager.

On Complaints and Appeals—D. S. Walker and John Slocumb.

On Unfinished Business—J. B. Morgan and L. Clarke.

On Foreign Communications—R. M. Gaines and John Cameron.

On Subordinate Lodges—B. F. Stockton and L. Clarke.

On motion of R. Parkinson, it was

Resolved, That the controversy now existing between this Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, be submitted to a Committee of three, and that the Most Worshipful Grand Master be one of that Committee.

R. Parkinson and Thos. P. Falconer were then appointed on said Committee.

On motion of Duncan S. Walker, it was

Resolved, That the Building Committee of the Grand Lodge be authorized and requested to rent the offices in the first story of the new Masonic Hall, and such other apartments as may be deemed advisable, on the best terms they can obtain, either by the month or year.

On motion of R. M. Gaines, it was

Resolved, That when this Grand Lodge adjourns, it will adjourn until nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

John Cameron offered the following resolution, which was lost:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge proceed to elect the officers for the ensuing year, to-morrow at 4 o'clock, P. M.

On motion of W. Provan, it was

Resolved, That a Special Committee of three be appointed to inspect the work

which has been done on the new Masonic Hall; also, to report what monies have been expended on the same.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed Bros. Cameron, Falconer and Stockton said Committee.

The following resolution was offered by R. M. Gaines, and lost :

Resolved, That a Select Committee of three be appointed to examine and report the state of the claim of this Grand Lodge against J. H. McComas.

The petition of Samuel Cotton, a Past Master, by degrees, and a member of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, for membership, was presented, and on ballots being taken on said petition, he was duly elected a member of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge then adjourned until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

MASONIC HALL, February 17, 1829.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Present as before, with the addition of Coleman M. Roberts, of Benton Lodge, U. D.

The Grand Treasurer reported that the total receipts for the preceding Masonic year were \$6275 00, and the expenditures \$6275 00, including \$47 75 deficit of the previous year reimbursed to him.

The Grand Secretary reported that he had received during the preceding year, \$1054 23, which sum, less \$93 23, had been paid over to the Grand Treasurer.

The Special Committee, to whom was referred the controversy now existing between the Grand Lodges of this State and Louisiana, report :

That it is with sincere pleasure they can announce to this Grand Lodge, that all cause of controversy between the Grand Lodges of this State and Louisiana has been removed by the surrender of the charter of Selected Friends Lodge. Your Committee, conceiving that there exists, at present, no subject for the consideration of this Committee, they therefore, pray to be discharged.

JOHN A. QUITMAN,
R. PARKINSON,
THOS. P. FALCONER,
Committee.

Which was received and agreed to.

The Committee on Foreign Communications made the following report :

That they have examined Communications from Louisiana, Delaware, Vermont, Missouri, North Carolina, Indiana, New Jersey, Connecticut, Virginia, Maine, Kentucky and Pennsylvania, and have found nothing demanding the particular attention of this Grand Lodge, except two resolutions of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, of the 30th of November, 1827, transmitted by circular, on the subject of the admission of visiting brethren; and a letter from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, correcting an error in the printed proceedings of that Lodge, with regard to the expulsion of a brother.

On these subjects your Committee beg leave to submit the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the letter from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of

Delaware, dated January 17, 1828, be printed with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

Your Committee have also found among the papers referred to them, a letter from Bro. B. P. Sanders, requesting information whether a petition for initiation in a Blue Lodge can be withdrawn before it is acted on by the Lodge? The Committee have not had time to examine thoroughly this, or the subjects previously mentioned in this report, and have submitted the foregoing resolution for the purpose of taking the opinion of the Grand Lodge. For that purpose also; they offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That a petition for initiation may be withdrawn before being acted on by the Lodge.

R. M. GAINES,
JOHN CAMERON.
Committee.

Which was received, and ordered to lie on the table.

A letter was read from the Secretary of Columbus Lodge, No. 5, to the Grand Secretary of this Lodge, respecting the difference existing between Bros. Wiley P. Harris and Thos. B. Reed.

On motion, said letter was laid on the table.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master read a communication from Thos. Nixon, W. M. of Selected Friends Lodge, No. 14, respecting a Grand Lecturer.

On motion of R. M. Gaines, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to enquire into the expediency of appointing a Grand Lecturer for this State, and make a report.

R. M. Gaines, J. B. Morgan, and Thos. P. Falconer were appointed said committee.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master read a communication from Benton Lodge, working under dispensation at Benton, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Returns of Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of J. B. Morgan, it was

Resolved, That it shall hereafter be the duty of Lodges, subordinate to this Grand Lodge, with their annual returns to transmit a copy of their by-laws, and report to this Grand Lodge all amendments thereto.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 3 o'clock this afternoon.

MASONIC HALL, NATCHEZ,
February 17, 1829—3 o'clock, P. M. }

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Unfinished Business made the following report:

That after a scrutinizing investigation of the minutes of the Grand Secretary, they find the first business to be a resolution respecting Monroe Lodge, No. 13, which is as follows:

Resolved, That Monroe Lodge, No. 13, be suspended from its labors, unless said Lodge pay up its arrearages at or before the meeting of the Grand Lodge, at their next Grand Annual Communication, and send Representatives from said Lodge to the above specified Communication; that the charter be withdrawn, and that the Grand Secretary notify said Lodge of this preamble and resolution.

Your Committee further report, that, on examining the minutes, they find that a committee consisting of Bros. Provan, Campbell and Parkinson were ap-

pointed to prosecute the suit against the Lottery Agent, and against his securities, if necessary.

Your Committee find on the minutes, an amendment proposed to the 2d section of the 15th article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, which is as follows :

"The Grand Lodge shall not be open for business, except there be present the officers or representatives, of a majority of the whole number of the chartered Lodges under its Jurisdiction."

They also beg leave to state, that, according to a resolution entered on the minutes, it was made the duty of the Grand Secretary to cause to be published one hundred copies of the proceedings of the last Annual Communication, which your Committee are sorry to report was not complied with.

All of which is respectfully submitted to the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

J. B. MORGAN,
L. CLARKE,
Committee.

Which was received and ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee on the Returns of Subordinate Lodges made the following report :

That they find the returns of the following Lodges to be correct : Harmony Lodge, No. 1 ; Andrew Jackson, No. 2 ; Washington, No. 3 ; Columbus, No. 5 ; Asylum, No. 6 ; Hiram, No. 9 ; B. Franklin, No. 11 ; Selected Friends, No. 14 ; Jefferson, No. 15 ; and Benton Lodge, working under dispensation. A defective return has been received from Clinton Lodge, No. 16. No returns have been received from Warren Lodge, No. 4 ; Rising Virtue, No. 7 ; Covington, No. 8 ; Franklin, No. 10 ; Lafayette, No. 12, and Monroe, No. 13 ; part of which Lodges have failed to make returns for two successive years, are therefore subject to be dealt with according to that article in the Constitution, in such cases made and provided.

The Committee further report, that Selected Friends Lodge, No. 14, has submitted with its returns its charter, and a transcript from its proceedings ; and that the Lodges herein reported as having presented correct returns, and likewise Clinton Lodge, No. 16, have paid their respective dues to the Grand Secretary. They also state, that Jefferson Lodge, No. 15, has presented returns and paid the dues for the year whilst working under dispensation, as well as the year regularly required by the Constitution.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

L. CLARKE,
B. F. STOCKTON,
Committee.

Which was received and ordered to lie on the table.

The special committee, appointed to inspect the work done at the Masonic Hall, made the following report :

On a close inspection of the workmanship, quality of materials and state of forwardness of the work, the Committee with pleasure state that their greatest expectations have been realized. The best materials have been used. The building is on a superior plan, and appears in a much more forward state, than the amount of money yet expended would induce them to expect. According to vouchers laid before them, there has been expended on said building, in payments to A. Brown, architect and contractor, the sum of \$6,825, leaving yet to be paid in the further progress of the work, and at its completion, the sum of \$3,175. There has been expended on the lot which originally cost \$2,000, the sum of \$1,300, leaving a note in bank, falling due on the 1st of March, for \$700. All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN CAMERON,
B. F. STOCKTON,
THOS. P. FALCONER,
Committee.

Which was received.

The special committee, appointed to enquire into the expediency of appointing a Grand Lecturer for this State, beg leave to report :

That they deem it highly important to the interests of Masonry, that there should be a uniform mode of working in all the Lodges under this Jurisdiction ; that that mode should be the correct one ; and that this Grand Lodge is the only tribunal to which the Subordinate Lodges can properly look for instruction on the subject. The committee are of opinion that lectures ought to be delivered at every Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, on the three first degrees of Masonry ; and that a Grand Lecturer should be appointed, whose duty it should be to visit as many of the Subordinate Lodges as required his services, and would make the necessary compensation. The committee beg leave further to suggest, that they have conversed with an intelligent Mason from a sister State, in whose intelligence and skill in the mysteries of the order, they have entire confidence ; and they respectfully recommend that he be requested, by the Grand Lodge, to lecture them on the three first degrees, before the adjournment of the present session. They are of opinion that the best way to arrive at the true mode, is by comparing our own with the work of other Grand Lodges. They therefore submit for the consideration of the Grand Lodge, the following resolutions :

1st. *Resolved*, That hereafter it shall be the duty of the Most Worshipful Grand Master, at each Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, to lecture on the three first degrees.

2d. *Resolved*, That is expedient to appoint a Grand Lecturer, under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

3d. *Resolved*, That Bro. D. C. Cosby be requested to lecture on the three first degrees of Masonry, before the adjournment of this Grand Lodge.

4th. *Resolved*, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master be authorized to appoint a Lecturer for the State of Mississippi, under the Constitution and By-Laws of this Grand Lodge.

R. M. GAINES,
THOS. P. FALCONER,
Committee.

Which was received and agreed to, and said resolutions adopted.

On motion of Hiram M'Farren, it was

Resolved, That Bro. D. C. Cosby be requested to give a lecture on the three first degrees of Masonry, to-morrow evening at seven o'clock.

The Committee to examine the books and papers of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, made the following report :

That they find the books and papers of the Grand Secretary in good order ; that the books appear to be kept correct, so far as respects the accounts with Subordinate Lodges ; but that the accounts against individual members, have not been generally collected for the last three years, and, as near as your Committee can ascertain, there is now due the Grand Lodge, from members for dues, \$178, a great part of which is of long standing, and your Committee think will be very difficult to collect.

They further report that they find the Grand Treasurer's books and papers in good order, and his accounts appear to be kept correct.

They have likewise examined the Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's reports for the past year, and find them correct, and vouchers for all expenditures, except for \$85 33, paid by the Grand Treasurer for discount on a note in bank, 30th September last.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

H. MCFARREN,
A. D. SPRIGGS,
Committee.

Which, on motion, was received and ordered to lie on the table.

The report of the Committee on Unfinished Business was then taken up.

Bro. J. B. Morgan offered the following resolution, respecting Monroe Lodge, No. 13, in said report, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Worshipful Master of Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, be authorized to demand the charter and jewels of Monroe Lodge, No. 13, and he is hereby required to return them to the Grand Master, at the next Annual Communication.

That part of the report respecting the proposed amendment to the Constitution, was then taken up, which reads in the following words :

Resolved, That the second section of the first article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, be so amended as to read as follows : Section 2. The Grand Lodge shall not be opened for business except there be present the officers or representatives of a majority of the whole number of the chartered Lodges under its jurisdiction.

R. M. Gaines offered an amendment to the resolution, which the Most Worshipful Grand Master decided to be out of order, he being of opinion that no amendment can be offered to a resolution for amending the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, after the same had been laid over for one year, but that the same must be adopted or rejected without amendment. An appeal being taken from said decision, the Grand Lodge sustained the opinion of the chair.

R. M. Gaines then moved that the resolution lie on the table, which was lost.

The resolution was then, on motion, indefinitely postponed.

The report of the Committee was then agreed to.

On motion of J. B. Morgan, it was

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to prosecute the lottery agent, be discharged from the further consideration of that subject.

R. M. Gaines offered the following amendment to the Constitution, which lies on the table until our next Annual Communication :

Resolved, That the second section of article one, be so amended as to read : "The Grand Lodge shall not be open for business except there be present the officers or representatives of six Subordinate Lodges."

The report of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges, was then taken up and considered by sections, and agreed to.

On motion of J. B. Morgan, it was

Resolved, That Clinton Lodge be allowed until first of May next, to make a correct return to this Grand Lodge.

On motion of B. F. Stockton, it was

Resolved, That Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 7, and Covington, No. 8, be suspended from their labors, and unless said Lodges pay their arrearages of dues, at or before the meeting of the next Annual Communication, and send representatives to the Grand Lodge at the above specified Communication, that their charters be withdrawn, and that the Grand Secretary notify said Lodges of this resolution.

On motion of Thomas P. Falconer, it was

Resolved, That Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, be allowed until the first of May next, to make its returns to this Grand Lodge.

On motion of R. M. Gaines, it was

Resolved, That the surrender of Selected Friends Lodge, No. 14, be accepted and that said Lodge be permitted to retain their jewels.

On motion of B. F. Stockton, it was

Resolved, That Warren Lodge, No. 4, be allowed until 1st of May next, to make a correct return, and elect its usual officers, and that the officers of last year be permitted to officiate in conducting said election.

Benjamin F. Stockton presented a petition from a number of brethren of Warren Lodge, No. 4, praying the removal of that Lodge from Greenville to Fayette, which, on motion, was referred to a Select Committee, consisting of B. F. Stockton, S. D. Boyd and A. D. Spriggs.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Communications was then taken up and considered, and the report and resolutions contained therein were, on motion, agreed to.

The Committee on Foreign Communications offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the first resolution reported by the Committee on Foreign Communications, be transmitted by letter to the several Grand Lodges of the United States, but not printed in the minutes.

The report of the Committee to inspect the Masonic Hall was then taken up and agreed to.

The Special Committee appointed on the petition of a number of brethren of Warren Lodge, No. 4, respectfully report:

That, in their opinion, the petition is reasonable, and ought to be granted. They, therefore, offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That Warren Lodge, No. 4, be allowed to remove and hold its meetings at Fayette, in the county of Jefferson, instead of Greenville, under its present charter; provided it previously complies with the requisitions of a previous resolution, on the subject of its elections and making its returns.

Which was received and agreed to, and said resolution adopted.

On motion of R. M. Gaines, it was

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master, John A. Quitman, be fully authorized and empowered to make any contract, in the name and in behalf of this Lodge, which he may think proper for the sale of the balance of the lottery scheme, which has been or may be surrendered by the former agent, or to make any other arrangement which he may, in his discretion, deem most advantageous to this Grand Lodge.

The petition of Coleman M. Roberts, in behalf of a number of brethren of Benton Lodge, working under dispensation at Benton, praying for a charter, was presented, and, on motion, referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Benjamin F. Stockton, J. B. Morgan and R. M. Gaines.

On motion of J. B. Morgan, it was

Resolved, That the several Subordinate Lodges be respectfully solicited to subscribe according to their means, for the finishing of the Masonic Hall.

On motion of Duncan S. Walker, it was

Resolved, That hereafter it shall be the duty of the representatives of the Grand Lodge, to appear clothed with the jewels of their respective offices.

The report of the Committee on the Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's books and papers, was then taken up and agreed to.

The Special Committee on the petition of a number of brethren working under dispensation at Benton, made the following report:

That they have had said petition under consideration, and consider it just and reasonable, and that the prayer of the petitioners ought to be granted; they, therefore, offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Lodge, now working under dispensation at Benton, in

Yazoo county, be granted a charter as Leake Lodge, No. 17, to be located at Benton.

The report and resolution were, on motion, then agreed to.

On motion, the Grand Lodge then adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

MASONIC HALL, CITY OF NATCHEZ,
February 18, 1829. }

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Grand Officers and Representatives as before.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to forward to each member of this Grand Lodge, the amount of dues they are severally owing, and make a report of such as neglect to pay by the next Grand Annual Communication.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That there be printed one hundred copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge at this and the last Annual Communication, or such parts thereof as the most Worshipful Grand Master shall deem necessary, together with the amendments made to the Constitution of this Grand Lodge.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will go into the election of Grand Officers, at 1 o'clock this day.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 1 o'clock this day.

ONE O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Most Woshipful Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment, at one o'clock, P. M., and proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

Whereupon, the following were declared duly elected :

M.: W.: JOHN A. QUITMAN, Grand Master, who immediately appointed THOMAS P. FALCONER, Deputy Grand Master.

R.: W.: DANIEL COMFORT.....Grand Senior Warden.
JOHN CAMERON.....Grand Junior Warden.
REV. A. A. MULLER.....Grand Chaplain.
D. S. WALKER.....Grand Orator.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....Grand Treasurer.
P. F. MERRICK.....Grand Secretary.
JAMES SMITH.....Grand Marshal.
J. B. MORGAN.....Grand Sword Bearer.
H. MCFARREN.....Grand Pursuivant.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master then excused himself and retired from the Lodge, and the Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master elect took his station as presiding officer.

Benjamin F. Stockton, Andrew Brown and James Smith, Past Masters, were on petition, duly elected members of this Grand Lodge.

On motion of Thos. P. Falconer, it was

Resolved, That there be a Special Communication of this Grand Lodge on the 24th of June next, for the purpose of dedicating the new Masonic Hall, and that D. S. Walker, R. Parkinson and R. M. Gaines be a Committee of Arrangements, and that the Grand Secretary inform the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge of this resolution.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until seven o'clock this evening.

SEVEN O'CLOCK, P. M.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That Bro. Cosby now deliver the lectures on the three degrees of Masonry, in pursuance of a resolution of yesterday.

Bro. C. M. Cosby then delivered lectures on the first and second degrees of Masonry. The lecture on the third degree was deferred for want of time.

On motion, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge adjourned until 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.

FEBRUARY 19, 1829, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals made the following report :

That no business has come before them, requiring the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

DUNCAN S. WALKER,
JOHN SLOCUMB,
Committee.

Which, on motion, was received and agreed to.

The following Officers, elect, were then severally presented to the Grand Master, and duly installed, to-wit :

DAN'L COMFORT, by proxy, T. P. Falconer.....Grand Senior Warden.
JOHN CAMERON.....Grand Junior Warden.
REV. ALBERT A. MULLER.....Grand Chaplain.
P. F. MERRICK.....Grand Secretary.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....Grand Treasurer.
H. M'FARREN.....Grand Pursuivant.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....Grand Steward and Tyler.

On motion, the Grand Steward and Tyler's account of \$65, was allowed, and the Treasurer ordered to pay the same.

No further business appearing, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form.

P. F. MERRICK, Grand Secretary.

TWELFTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1830.

NATCHEZ, February 15, 1830.

PRESENT :

M.: W.: JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.: STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
JOHN SLOCUMB.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
P. F. MERRICK.....	Grand Secretary.
LEWIS CLARKE.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
W. C. GRISSAM.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
HIRAM M'FARREN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Grand Lodge opened in the third degree.

The following representatives from Subordinate Lodges produced their credentials and took their seats:

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—S. Sprague, R. M. Gaines; R. K. Picket.
Andrew Jackson, No. 1—E. Whittemore.
Washington, No. 3—J. Nichols, W. Davis and D. Greenleaf.
Columbus, No. 5—P. F. Merrick, (proxy).
Rising Virtue, No. 7—P. F. Merrick, (proxy).
Franklin, No. 10—Robert M'Ginty and J. M. Henderson.
Benjamin Franklin, No. 11—John Slocumb and M. C. Middleton.
Jefferson, No. 15—Lewis Clarke.
Clinton, No. 16—A. L. Wills, Jacob B. Morgan.
Leake, No. 17—John J. Edwards.
Quitman, under dispensation—Moses Greer.

Members—Richard Bein and Duncan S. Walker, and a number of visiting brethren.

The M.: W.: Grand Master read a communication from Daniel Comfort, Grand Senior Warden, stating the reason of his not attending this Grand Communication.

The M.: W.: Grand Master then made the following report of his official transactions during the past year :

BRETHREN—During the four years that I have, by your kind partiality, been called upon to preside over the deliberations of the Grand Lodge, I have at the commencement of each Annual Communication, laid before you a brief detail of my transactions during the past year, and have presented you with a general view of the affairs of the Grand Lodge.

It will be recollected that Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 7, at Holmesville, was at the last meeting of the Grand Lodge, suspended from its labors for non-payment of dues and failing to make returns for two successive years. In the month of April last I received a communication from the members of that Lodge, accounting satisfactorily for the default, pledging themselves to comply with the requisitions and entreating permission to resume their labors. Believing that the Grand Lodge, in its paternal government over the Subordinate Lodges, would unhesitatingly grant their request, I exercised a power which I believe I possess, of permitting them to resume their work until the further order of the Grand Lodge. This dispensation will expire with the present session, unless you shall think proper to extend it.

I have granted dispensations to two new Lodges, one established at Augusta in Perry county, called Leaf River Lodge; the other established at Georgetown, Copiah county, called Quitman Lodge. Applications for charters may be expected from both these Lodges.

I regret to say that some time in May or June last, difficulties of a serious nature occurred in Leake Lodge, which threatened the existence of the Lodge itself. In the emergency, I was applied to by the parties concerned, and being unable to visit the Lodge in person, I commissioned two members of Clinton Lodge, to enquire into the matters and make report thereof to me. This duty was performed to my entire satisfaction. The report of that committee is now submitted to the Grand Lodge.

By a resolution of your Most Worshipful Body, at their last session, I was authorized to appoint a Lecturer under the Constitution. With an earnest desire to perform that duty, I attended lectures delivered by an intelligent brother, who, I have every reason to believe, was favorably regarded by many members of the Grand Lodge. I found him eminently qualified for such a station, but I also found that his lectures differed in some essential particulars from those in use among us. Not feeling myself authorized to sanction these alterations, I did not propose the station to that brother. All other attempts to procure a lecturer proved fruitless. I have, however, a prospect of procuring the important services of a very enlightened brother during the next year.

Under a resolution of the Grand Lodge at its last session, authorizing me to contract for the sale of the balance of the lottery scheme, I have made an arrangement by which several hundred dollars have already been raised, and a very timely aid afforded under our present embarrassments.

I submit to you the petition of T. Elrod, praying an appeal from the sentence of expulsion of Franklin Lodge at Vicksburg.

During the past year I have been enabled to visit many Lodges in the State, and have great pleasure in saying, that Masonic light and information is rapidly diffusing itself.

The statements and reports which will be exhibited to you during this session, will show the receipts and disbursements. The Building Committee have paid in all, towards the erection of the Masonic Hall, nearly \$12,000. Six thousand dollars of this sum was raised by a loan negotiated upon the individual credit of the members of the Building Committee. A large portion of this loan must be redeemed during the present spring, and the means of doing so from the funds and revenue of the Grand Lodge, are very inadequate. It will require every exertion on the part of the Subordinate Lodges to preserve unimpaired the credit of the Grand Lodge, during this period of pressure. This debt once paid, will leave us an ample revenue to devote to charity and benevolence, and many of us will, I trust, live to see the day when by this means, the orphan children of indigent Masons will not only be fed and clothed, but also educated and trained up in the principles of morality and virtue.

JOHN A. QUITMAN.

The M. W. Grand Master then announced the following Standing Committees:

To Examine the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Papers—J. Nichols and S. Sprague.

To Audit the Grand Steward and Tyler's Account—John Slocumb and M. C. Middleton.

On Complaints and Appeals—A. L. Wills and D. Greenleaf.

On Unfinished Business—J. B. Morgan and Robert McGinty.

On Foreign Communications—R. M. Gaines, M. C. Middleton and D. S. Walker.

On Subordinate Lodges—Lewis Clarke, R. K. Picket and J. T. Edwards.

On Propositions and Grievances—J. B. Morgan, D. S. Walker and P. F. Merriek.

The petition of James A. Girault was read, praying that a note due by him to the Grand Lodge for about \$1400, on the 4th of March next, may be renewed, by his giving good security for one and two years; which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

The petition J. T. Elrod was read, praying an appeal from the decision of Franklin Lodge, No. 10, expelling him from the benefits of Masonry during his natural life; which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

The following report of W. C. Demoss and H. G. Johnson, directed to the M. W. Grand Master, was read, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges:

MOUNT SALUS, July 4, 1829.

Most Worshipful Sir and Brother:

The blank commission you prepared and left with the Rev. Mr. Comfort, to fill with the names of two members of Clinton Lodge, No. 16, to summon the members of Leake Lodge, and submit to them, or a majority of the Lodge, the privilege of organization and installation under their charter, and diligently enquire into the unpleasant and unfortunate difficulties that were known to exist with some of its members, was in the first instance filled with the names of Bros. J. B. Morgan and H. G. Johnson, who directed an order to the Master elect, to congregate said Lodge at two o'clock, on the 26th day of June, at some suitable place in the town of Benton; which was accordingly done. Bro. Morgan was unable to attend, and Bro. William C. Demoss was substituted.

We accordingly met the brethren at the time and place appointed. They unanimously requested installation. We then apprised them of the extent of our instructions, and our duty under them; that none of the officers could be installed against whom there were charges, or who were implicated, and requested that the charges should be preferred in writing by nine o'clock the next morning. (If a reconciliation could not be effected between the parties, with the assistance of the Standing Committee.) The Lodge met according to adjournment, and charges were preferred against the Master and Senior Warden elect. Nothing appearing against the Junior Warden, Treasurer and Senior Deacon, they were installed. The Lodge now being organized, it proceeded to consider the nature of the charge preferred against the Senior Warden. The Committee reported favorably, and the Lodge acquitted him; he was then installed and took charge of the Lodge.

The Committee reported unfavorable on the charges preferred against Jesse S. Brown, Master elect. The Lodge, after mature deliberation, on the second charge, (which, in our opinion, was the least offensive,) found him guilty of unmasonic conduct, on his own confession, as well as other strong testimony; and thereupon suspended him from all the rights, benefits and privileges of Masonry, during the will and pleasure of the Lodge.

There yet remain two charges of a serious nature to be acted on against him. They were postponed in consequence of the absence of the Tyler, a material witness in support of them. The Secretary and Tyler are also implicated; the absence of the latter prevented an investigation of the charges that are against

them. A circumstance much to be regretted by the Lodge, believing our mediation would have a happy tendency to bring about a reconciliation between the parties, and that peace and harmony might once more prevail in the Lodge.

Believing we have given you a faithful detail of this truly unfortunate and unpleasant matter, and the manner in which we have discharged our mission, and that it may meet your approbation, and that it may be interesting to that particular Lodge, and redound to the honor and interest of Masons in general, we do most fervently hope.

With sentiments of profound respect, we subscribe ourselves your faithful servants,

WM. C. DEMOSS,
HENRY G. JOHNSON,
Committee.

Henry Millard, a member of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, presented to the M.: W.: Grand Lodge, as a present, a copy of the Holy Bible, splendidly bound; which, on motion, was accepted, and the following resolution adopted:

Resolved, That R. M. Gaines and A. L. Wills be a Committee to express to Henry Millard, the thanks of the M.: W.: Grand Lodge for the handsome present received from him.

The M.: W.: Grand Master announced the resignation of Robert Parkinson as a member of the Building Committee of the Masonic Hall.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge then adjourned until to-morrow at ten o'clock.

TUESDAY, February 16, 1880.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Phillip O. Hughes, of Warren Lodge, No. 4, and James Smith, of Hiram Lodge, No. 9, and Thomas P. Falconer, of Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, D. G. M., produced their credentials as representatives from said Lodges, and took their seats.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge was then called from labor to refreshment.

A procession was then formed at the Court House and proceeded to the new Masonic Hall, when the M.: W.: Grand Master, assisted by Edward Turner, Past Grand Master, and the officers and members of the Grand Lodge, in the presence of numerous visiting brethren, solemnly dedicated the new Masonic Hall to Masonry, to science and to universal benevolence, according to ancient usage.

The Grand Lodge having been called to labor, the Grand Secretary made the following report, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary's books and papers:

In conformity with a resolution of the M.: W.: Grand Lodge at its last Grand Annual Communication, the Grand Secretary communicated to Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 7, and Covington Lodge, No. 8, the resolution suspending them from their labors, and that unless they paid their arrearages of dues and sent representatives to the next Annual Communication, their charters would be withdrawn.

Another resolution requiring the Grand Secretary to transmit by letter, to the several Grand Lodges of the United States, the first resolution reported by the Committee on Foreign Communications has been complied with.

Another resolution requiring the Grand Secretary to forward to each member

of the Grand Lodge the amount of dues they are severally owing, has likewise been done, a large majority of which have not as yet paid their arrearages.

The Grand Secretary has had printed one hundred copies of the proceedings of the last Grand Communication, and such parts of the proceedings at the Annual Communication in 1828, as the M. W. Grand Master selected.

There have been no returns from Franklin Lodge, No. 12, nor Covington, No. 8; neither have said Lodges paid their arrearages of dues, nor were they represented at the last Grand Annual Communication. Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 7, have paid part of their arrearages, but have made no returns for 1828 and 1829, but have made a return for 1830.

That during the past year there has been received by the Grand Secretary \$4572.00, including the \$1992.50 received from Calvin Smith; the whole of which has been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, with the exception of \$160.75, the amount of his account for printing, postage, recording, etc., which, if allowed, will balance the Grand Secretary's account in full to this date; all of which is respectfully submitted.

P. F. MERRICK, Grand Secretary.

The account current of the Grand Secretary showed the receipts, of the preceding year to have been \$4,572, leaving a balance due the Grand Lodge of \$160.75 in his hands.

The Grand Treasurer's report showed the balance in his hands to be \$1,250.

The Committee on Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the petition of Bro. James A. Girault, made the following report, which, on motion, was read and laid on the table:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The Committee on Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the petition of Bro. James A. Girault, praying an extension of one and two years on his debt now due to the Grand Lodge, report, that while it is inexpedient to grant the relief to the extent prayed for, they recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Building Committee of the Grand Lodge be authorized to make such arrangements with Bro. Girault, respecting his debt to the Grand Lodge, as, without endangering the security of this debt, the fulfilment of their engagements for the Lodge will in their opinion justify.

Which is respectfully submitted.

J. B. MORGAN, Chairman.
P. F. MERRICK,
D. S. WALKER.

On motion of Robert McGinty, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Complaints and Appeals, to whom was referred the petition of J. T. Elrod, be instructed to call before them the petitioner, and also to call upon the Representatives of Franklin Lodge, No. 10, for all evidences in their possession in support of the charge.

The following amendment to the Constitution, laid on the table at the last Grand Annual Communication, was taken up, viz:

Resolved, That the second section of article first be so amended as to read "the Grand Lodge shall not be open for business except there be present the officers or representatives of six Subordinate Lodges."

A motion to lay the resolution on the table was lost. The question was then taken on the adoption of the amendment and lost.

On motion of Robert McGinty, it was

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge proceed to the election of its officers tomorrow at 3 o'clock P. M.

The report of the Committee on the petition of Jas. A. Girault was then

taken up, and, on motion, agreed to, and the resolution appended to said report adopted.

On motion of W. Provan, it was

Resolved, That it is expedient to fill the vacancy in the Building Committee occasioned by the resignation of Robert Parkinson, and that the M.: W.: Grand Master be authorized to fill said vacancy.

The M.: W.: Grand Master appointed P. F. Merrick to fill that vacancy.

On motion of W. Provan, it was

Resolved, That a special committee of three be appointed to examine and report on the proceedings of the Building Committee.

Whereupon the following persons were appointed on said committee: J. B. Morgan, D. S. Walker and R. M. Gaines.

The Committee on Foreign Communications made the following report, which, on motion, was read and agreed to:

That they have examined Communications from Kentucky, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Alabama, Georgia, District of Columbia, Ohio, Louisiana, New York and Virginia, and find nothing in them requiring the particular attention of this Grand Lodge.

They further report, that they have examined Communications from the District of Columbia, Indiana, North Carolina, Louisiana, Kentucky and New York, transmitting the signatures of their Grand Officers and the seals of their Grand Lodges, which your committee recommend should be deposited in the archives of this Lodge.

R. M. GAINES,
D. S. WALKER,
M. C. MIDDLETON.

The petition of Moses Greer and others, members of Quitman Lodge, working under dispensation, praying for a charter, was presented, and, on motion, referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

S. Sprague presented the following resolution of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, adopted in said Lodge, January 2d, 1830:

MASONIC HALL, January 2, 1830.

At a regular meeting of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That, on condition the Grand Lodge do by a resolution agree that this Lodge shall have the privilege of meeting in the Masonic Hall free of rent, forever, that the W.: M.: of this Lodge subscribe the sum of \$300, in addition to what this Lodge has already paid to the Grand Lodge, for the purpose of finishing the Masonic Hall, and that the Treasurer be authorized to pay said amount to the Building Committee of the Masonic Hall, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated. A true copy.

P. F. MERRICK, Secretary.

Which, on motion, was referred to a select committee, consisting of D. Greenleaf, A. L. Willis and John Edwards.

On motion of W. Provan, it was

Resolved, That a special committee of three be appointed to examine the Grand Treasurer's books and accounts during the last ten years, in order to ascertain the amount of outstanding debts, and especially to ascertain the exact state of the accounts at the times of changing the several officers who filled the station of Grand Treasurer.

The M.: W.: Grand Master appointed W. Provan, John Slocumb and J. M. Henderson, on said committee.

On motion of Duncan S. Walker, it was

Resolved, That the introduction of ardent spirits into the refreshment room

of this Grand Lodge be prohibited, and that this Grand Lodge recommend the adoption of a similar prohibition to the respective Lodges under its jurisdiction.

E. Whittemore presented the following resolution of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, passed in said Lodge in January, 1830:

Resolved, That Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, loan the sum of three hundred dollars (or as much as they conveniently can collect, not to exceed that sum), to the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi.

Which, on motion, was referred to the committee on the resolution of Harmony Lodge, No. 1.

The petition of A. D. Spriggs, a Past Master and member of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, was presented, and on ballots being taken, he was declared duly elected a member of this M. W. Grand Lodge.

The M. W. Grand Lodge then adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, February 17, 1830.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals made the following report on the appeal of J. T. Elrod:

Upon the petition of John T. Elrod, praying a redress of his grievances, the Committee on Complaints and Appeals make the following report:

That they have carefully examined the documents accompanying the appeal of John T. Elrod from the decision of Franklin Lodge, No. 10, and are of opinion that said Elrod is entitled to redress from this Grand Lodge; they therefore offer the following resolutions:

1st. *Resolved*, That for the commission of such offences as only offend against the decency of society, the punishments ought, in the first place, to be reprimands or definite suspensions, and that they ought not to amount to expulsion, unless in the last resort.

2d. *Resolved*, That the charge brought against John T. Elrod, being an offence only against the decency of society, was such an one as did not merit, in the first instance, so severe a punishment as that of expulsion.

3d. *Resolved*, That whereas said Elrod did make atonement and satisfaction for the injury done, as far as was in his power, before his trial and condemnation, therefore the sentence of expulsion, as pronounced against him by Franklin Lodge, No. 10, is hereby commuted and changed to suspension for the space of twelve months from the day of his trial next ensuing.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DANIEL GREENLEAF,
ANDREW L. WILLS,
Committee.

Which, on motion, was read and laid on the table.

J. B. Morgan presented the petition of Thomas Massey, praying an appeal from the decision of Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, suspending him from the benefits of Masonry, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

The report of the committee on the appeal of J. T. Elrod was then taken up, and, on motion of Thomas P. Falconer, all the resolutions appended to said report were stricken out. The report as amended was then agreed to.

On motion of D. S. Walker, the M. W. Grand Lodge proceeded to hear the appeal of J. T. Elrod from the sentence of Franklin Lodge, No. 10.

Whereupon, being admitted into the Lodge, the charge and specifications against him were read, to which he pleaded not guilty. The accused, after being heard in his defence, retired.

Upon debate of the matter, the said John T. Elrod was unanimously found guilty of the charge and specifications exhibited against him.

On motion of J. M. Henderson, it was resolved that

WHEREAS, John T. Elrod having been expelled from the benefits of Masonry by Franklin Lodge, No. 10, on the 29th of March, 1829; and

WHEREAS, Said expulsion is deemed a punishment greater than in the opinion of this Grand Lodge the ancient usages of the Order would justify; therefore,

Resolved, That said punishment be commuted and changed to an indefinite suspension at the will and pleasure of this Grand Lodge."

Thomas P. Falconer read the following communication, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges:

To the M. W. Grand Master, Grand Wardens, and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

In pursuance of a resolution of this Grand Lodge, at its last Annual Communication, requiring the W. Master of Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, to demand the charter and jewels of Monroe Lodge, No. 13, and return them to the Grand Master at the next Annual Communication, I beg leave to report that in discharge of that duty I called on a brother, an officer of that Lodge while it existed, and was informed by him that a charter had never been granted by this Grand Lodge to that Lodge, but that it existed under dispensation, and they had never possessed any jewels. Deeming any further investigation, in this matter, unnecessary, I beg to be discharged from the further performance of the duty required by the resolution mentioned above.

THOMAS P. FALCONER,
W. M. Lafayette Lodge, No. 12.

J. B. Morgan presented the returns and proceedings of Leaf River Lodge, working under dispensation, which, on motion, were referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Lodge then, in pursuance of a previous resolution, went into an election of its officers for the ensuing year. On counting the ballots the following persons were declared duly elected:

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Senior Warden.
JACOB B. MORGAN	Grand Junior Warden.
REV. S. T. O. HAWKINS.....	Grand Chaplain.
D. COMFORT.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
P. F. MERRICK.....	Grand Secretary.
JAMES SMITH.....	Grand Marshal.
J. NICHOLS.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
H. M'FARREN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
A. D. SPRIGGS.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Thomas P. Falconer, Deputy Grand Master, and Lewis Clarke, Grand Senior Deacon.

The Grand Senior Warden elect, appointed John Edwards, Grand Junior Deacon for the ensuing year.

The petitions of Alexander Bingham and Francis Little for membership, were presented, and on ballots being taken they were declared duly elected.

The Committee to whom was referred the resolution and proposition of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, to make a donation of three hundred dollars to this Grand Lodge, made the following report :

The Committee to whom has been referred the resolution and proposition of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, report that,

WHEREAS, In consideration of the very liberal donation heretofore made by Harmony Lodge, No. 1, to this Grand Lodge, for the purpose of building a Masonic Hall, and in consideration of the very liberal contributions made by the individual members of said Lodge for the purpose aforesaid, amounting in the aggregate to near seventeen hundred dollars; therefore,

Resolved, That upon the payment of the further sum of three hundred dollars by Harmony Lodge, No. 1, to the Building Committee of this Lodge, the said Building Committee shall, in behalf of this Grand Lodge, be authorized to guarantee to Harmony Lodge, No. 1, the use of the Masonic Hall, in which to hold their meetings and sittings, free from rent, so long as they shall continue to work under their present charter, and be known by the name of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, and so long as said Masonic Hall shall stand, and be used as such; conditioned, that they shall be entitled to occupy and use said Masonic Hall only when not in the immediate use and occupancy of this Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL GREENLEAF,
JOHN J. EDWARDS,
ANDREW L. WILLS,
Committee.

The Committee to whom was referred the resolution of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, made the following report :

The Committee to whom has been referred the resolution and proposition of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, report that the proposal which said Lodge makes to lend this Grand Lodge, in its present embarrassments, the sum of three hundred dollars, evinces a liberal and paternal feeling; therefore,

Resolved, That the Building Committee be authorized to accept of the proposed loan, upon such terms and upon such an interest (not exceeding ten per cent.) as may be agreed upon between them and said Lodge.

Resolved, That if Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, should prefer making a donation of the said sum of three hundred dollars, in addition to what they have already given, the Building Committee shall be authorized to accept the donation on the same terms which have been extended to Harmony Lodge, No. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL GREENLEAF,
JOHN J. EDWARDS,
ANDREW L. WILLS,
Committee.

On motion, said reports were read and agreed to, and the resolutions appended thereto adopted.

The Committee on Unfinished Business made the following report :

That they have carefully examined the proceedings of the last Annual Communication, and find nothing in their opinion which demands the further attention either of the Committee or of this Grand Lodge.

J. B. MORGAN,
R. M'GINTY,
Committee.

Which, on motion, was read and laid on the table.

J. B. Morgan offered the following resolution to amend the Constitution, which was laid on the table until the next Annual Communication :

Resolved, That whenever this Grand Lodge shall reverse or abrogate the de-

cision of a Subordinate Lodge, expelling a brother, and shall restore said brother to the benefits and privileges of Masonry, nevertheless he shall not thereby be restored to membership within the body from which he has been expelled, without its own consent.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report :

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report : That they have examined the letters of the following Lodges, and find them correct, viz : Harmony, No. 1 ; Andrew Jackson, No. 2 ; Washington, No. 3 ; Warren, No. 4, for 1828-29 ; Columbus, No. 5 ; Asylum, No. 6 ; Rising Virtue, No. 7 ; Benjamin Franklin, No. 11 ; Franklin, No. 10, for 1828-29 ; Hiram, No. 9 ; Jefferson, No. 15 ; Clinton, No. 16 ; Leake, No. 17.

There are no returns before the Committee from Covington, No. 8 ; Lafayette, No. 12 ; Monroe, No. 13.

Your Committee further report, that although there is no regular return from Quitman Lodge, they have before them the work of said Lodge, together with the dispensation granted by the M. : W. : Grand Master, and a petition praying that this Grand Lodge grant them a charter to work as a regular Lodge. Your Committee are of opinion that the prayer of the petitioners be granted.

They further report, that they examined the work of Leaf River Lodge, under dispensation, and find that their work is not wholly Masonic ; they having upon several occasions received and acted on petitions and initiated candidates the same day, and not permitting the petitions to lay over one month, as is usual in all well governed and regulated Lodges ; the proceedings of which your Committee beg leave to lay before the M. : W. : Grand Lodge.

Your Committee beg leave further to report, that they have examined the report of Bros. Demoss and Johnston, and that they are unable to make any report upon the same.

Your Committee further report, that the report of the R. : W. : Deputy Grand Master has had their consideration ; that upon reference to the Grand Secretary's book, they find that a charter was granted to Monroe Lodge, No. 13, on the 2d January, 1826.

Your Committee would therefore offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That the M. : W. : Grand Master appoint some brother to demand in the name of this Grand Lodge, from the last Wor. Master, or some of the Wardens, of Monroe Lodge, No. 13, the surrender of the charter and jewels of said Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

R. K. PICKETT,
L. CLARKE,
J. J. EDWARDS,
Committee.

Which, on motion, was read and taken up by sections and agreed to, except the resolution appended thereto, which was stricken out.

The following resolutions were, on motion, then adopted :

Resolved, That Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, be allowed, until the 1st of April, to make its returns to this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the suspension of Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 7, by virtue of a resolution of the Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication, be removed.

Resolved, That the charter of Covington Lodge, No. 8, be withdrawn, and that the M. : W. : Grand Master be requested to demand the same together with the jewels of said Lodge.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge grant a charter to Quitman Lodge now working under dispensation, to be known as Quitman Lodge, No. 18.

Resolved, That although the transcript of the proceedings of Leaf River Lodge, working under dispensation, is not in strict accordance with ancient form and usage, yet in consideration of extenuating circumstances shown, the Grand Lodge do grant to said Lodge a charter, to be known by the name of Leaf River Lodge, No. 19.

Daniel Greenleaf offered the following resolution, which was laid on the table:

Resolved, That it be made imperative upon all the Subordinate Lodges, within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, so as to alter and amend the By-Laws of their respective Lodges, that hereafter every person applying to be initiated into the secrets and thereby to be entitled to the privileges and benefits of Masonry, shall on his first application pay the sum requisite to raise him to the sublime degree of Master Mason; and that if any stage of his advancement to that degree, he should be found unworthy, then a proportionate part of the money, for such degree or degrees as the candidate was not allowed to receive, to be returned.

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals, to whom was referred the petition of Thomas Massey, praying an appeal from the decision of Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, made a favorable report, which, on motion was read and agreed to.

The Committee on the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's books and papers, made their report, accompanied by the Grand Treasurer's account.

To the M.: W.: Grand Lodge, State of Mississippi:

The Committee to whom was referred to examine the Grand Treasurer's books, papers and accounts, beg leave to report that they have performed that duty, and find the Grand Treasurer's accounts correct, and supported by the proper vouchers, except the items of bank discount, which your Committee, from a calculation made, believe are also correct. The balance of the account being \$14 43 in favor of the Grand Treasurer. The Treasurer's book has also been submitted to the inspection and examination of the Committee, and they find the same regularly and correctly kept; they also find the papers in his charge correctly filed. Respectfully submitted,

J. NICHOLS,
S. SPRAGUE,
Committee.

The Grand Treasurer's report showed the balance in his hands to be \$1,250.

On motion J. Nichols and S. Sprague were excused from serving any longer on the Committee to examine the Grand Secretary's books and account.

The M.: W.: Grand Master appointed E. Whittemore and Thomas P. Falconer as said committee in their stead.

On motion of J. B. Morgan, it was

Resolved, That the appeal of Thos. Massey from the decision of Lafayette Lodge expelling him, be granted, and that the Grand Secretary notify the said Massey; and it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to serve a copy of the same on said Massey, and cite him to appear before this Grand Lodge on the second day of its session in February, 1831.

On motion, the M.: W.: Grand Lodge adjourned until to-morrow at ten o'clock, A. M.

THURSDAY, 18th February, 1830.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The M.: W.: Grand Master solemnly installed the following officers elect,
viz:

THOMAS P. FALCONER.....	Deputy Grand Master.
STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Senior Warden.
J. B. MORGAN.....	Grand Junior Warden.
REV. J. T. O. HAWKINS, proxy A. L. Wills.....	Grand Chaplain.
D. COMFORT, by proxy, D. S. Walker.....	Grand Orator.
P. F. MERRICK.....	Grand Secretary.
LEWIS CLARKE.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
JOHN EDWARDS.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
J. NICHOLS.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
HIRAM MCFARREN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
A. D. SPRIGGS.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The special committee to examine the late Treasurer's accounts made the following report:

The special committee appointed by this Lodge to examine the Treasurer's books and accounts for the last ten years, would beg leave to report, that they have examined the books, etc., of the former Treasurers, and from the general press of business before the Lodge, the time allowed them, and the complicated situation of the same, they are unable to make a satisfactory report thereon, and would therefore offer for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That a special committee of three be appointed to examine the former Treasurer's books and accounts during the last ten years, and that they ascertain, if practicable the amount of the outstanding debts due to this Lodge, and also the amount, if any, due from the several Treasurers thereof, and for the better accomplishment of which, they are hereby authorized to employ an accountant, and that they report thereon to the next Annual Communication of this Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

S. M. HENDERSON,
WM. PROVAN,
Committee.

Which, on motion, was received and agreed to, and the resolution appended thereto adopted.

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master appointed Wm. Provan, R. M. Gaines and E. Whittemore, on said committee.

The special committee to whom was referred to the examination of the proceedings of the Building Committee, made following report:

The special committee appointed to examine the proceedings of the Building Committee, report, that they are happy to say that the committee has, thus far, fully and satisfactorily performed the trust reposed in them—that in the performance of its duty, the Building Committee purchased the lot on which the new Masonic Hall is erected for the sum of \$2000, the whole of which, with four dollars and sixty-six cents interest, has been paid by their draft on the Treasurer; and the deed of the Grand Lodge recorded. That they contracted for the erection of the new hall for the sum of \$10,000, and about \$500 additional for contingencies, and took bond and security from the contractor. That so far the building has progressed satisfactorily, and its materials are of the best kind; that they have paid the architect \$9600, having reserved a sufficient amount to cover what remains to be done. That the building is insured, and the lower rooms are under rent. The Building Committee have been compelled to borrow, on their individual credit, \$6,000; namely \$4,000 from the Bank, and \$2,000 from C. Smith; upon which they have paid \$1,650, together with the discount and interest—and they have further expended in necessary contingencies \$59 87½ cents, making the total to exceed \$13,450 disbursed and accounted for by the Building Committee.

The Committee therefore submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to the Building

Committee, for the able and faithful manner in which they have thus far discharged their duty.

J. B. MORGAN, Chairman.
D. S. WALKER,
R. M. GAINES,
Committee.

Which, on motion, was received and agreed to.

The report of the Committee on Unfinished Business was then taken up and agreed to.

J. B. Morgan offered the following amendment to the 3d article of section 4th, of the Constitution:

Every Subordinate Lodge shall be represented in the Grand Lodge by its officers, or by representatives or proxies, who must be Master Masons and members of the particular Lodge which they represent; and such appointment, whether of representatives or proxies, must be certified by the Secretary and the seal of the Lodge affixed thereto.

Which, on motion, was laid on the table until the next Annual Communication.

Duncan S. Walker offered the following amendment to the 3d section of the 4th article of the Constitution:

Resolved, That every Lodge, or representative of one, be authorized to appoint a proxy to represent him, or them, in the Grand Lodge; provided such representative be of equal Masonic rank with himself, and that no Grand Officer or member shall be entitled to more than three votes, nor to represent more than one Lodge.

Which, on motion, was laid on the table until the next Annual Communication.

On motion of J. B. Morgan, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to Bro. Joseph Newman, for the long and faithful discharge of his duties as Grand Tyler to this Grand Lodge, and the Grand Secretary be required to furnish Bro. Newman with a copy of the above resolution.

The resolution, laid on the table, respecting the application of candidates in Subordinate Lodges, was then taken up and adopted.

On motion of Duncan S. Walker, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary select only such parts of the proceedings for publication as he may deem proper, subject to the revision of the Grand Master.

S. Sprague offered the following amendment to the Constitution:

Resolved, That the Constitution of this Grand Lodge be so amended as to insert an additional article thereto, to the following effect: This Grand Lodge shall have power to divide this State into Masonic districts and to appoint D. G. Masters to each district thereof, whose duty it shall be to visit the Subordinate Lodges within his district, at least once in each year, and make report to this Grand Lodge at its Annual Communications in each year, the situation of the Lodges visited by him.

Which, on motion, was laid on the table until the next Annual Communication.

The Committee to examine the Grand Secretary's books and papers, made the following report:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The Committee appointed to examine the books and papers of the Grand

Secretary have performed that duty, and respectfully ask leave to report:

That they find from the balance sheet submitted them by the Grand Secretary, that the outstanding balances due to the Grand Lodge from sundry individuals, amount to the sum of \$282, and that a further sum of \$145 is due from several Subordinate Lodges, as designated in balance sheet of the Grand Secretary—making, in the aggregate, \$427, which balance sheet the Committee respectfully submit to the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

They have also examined the account of the former Secretary, and find an item of \$24 50, charged in his account for taking rough minutes of the Grand Lodge for two years; which the Constitution is not specific in regard to the compensation; we believe that it is within purview and meaning of the 4th article, section 5 of the Constitution; and furthermore believe that it is a compensation which he is justly entitled to, and recommend that his account be allowed.

The Committee have also examined the report of the Grand Secretary and find it correct, and accompanied with the proper vouchers. Which report they submit to the inspection of the Grand Lodge.

They have also examined the books and papers of the Grand Secretary, and find that they have been correctly kept and neatly filed—which is work of much labor, owing to the inconvenient construction of the box in which they are contained, and as the papers are continually increasing in number and value, they, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed and authorized to procure, for the use of his department, and permanently place in the Grand Secretary's room, a suitable book-case or press, wherein to deposit the books and papers of the Grand Lodge, and that the same be paid out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

E. WHITEMORE,
T. P. FALCONER,
Committee.

J. B. Morgan offered the following as an additional section to the first article of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, which, on motion, was laid on the table until the next Annual Communication:

It shall be the duty of Lodges, subordinate to this Grand Lodge, at their annual returns, to report all amendments to their By-Laws.

The petition of John Edwards, for membership, was presented, and on ballots being taken, he was declared duly elected a member of this Grand Lodge.

The demission of Munroe Robitaille was read, and, on motion, accepted upon payment of his dues.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the duty imposed on the M. W. Grand Master to lecture on the three first degrees, be dispensed with.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned until the next Annual Communication.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form,

ATTEST:

P. F. MERRICK, Grand Secretary.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1831.

NATCHEZ, February 15, 1831.

PRESENT :

R. W. THOMAS P. FALCONER.....	Deputy Grand Master.
STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Senior Warden.
JOS. DUNBAR.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
ROBERT ANDERSON.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
H. MILLARD.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
P. F. MERRICK.....	Grand Secretary.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
HIRAM MCFARREN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
A. D. SPRIGGS.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Grand Lodge opened in Due Form, in the Third Degree of Masonry.

The following representatives from Subordinate Lodges, produced their credentials and took their seats :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—S. Sprague, H. Millard.

Washington, No. 3—D. Greenleaf.

Rising Virtue, No. 7—P. F. Merrick, proxy.

Hiram, No. 9—J. Dunbar, H. McFerran, T. Lewis.

B. Franklin, No. 11—Robert Anderson.

Lafayette, No. 12—Thos. P. Falconer.

Quitman, No. 18—John Woods.

Members—George Newman and Joseph Newman, and a number of visiting brethren.

There were no representatives from the following Lodges, viz :

Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2; Warren, No. 4; Columbus, No. 5; Asylum, No. 6; Franklin, No. 10; Jefferson, No. 15; Clinton, No. 16; Leake, No. 17; Leaf River, No. 19.

The Deputy Grand Master then announced the appointment of the following Committees :

To Examine the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Papers—S. Sprague and T. Lewis.

To audit the Accounts of the Grand Steward and Tyler—R. Anderson and H. Miller.

On Complaints and Appeals—Joseph Dunbar and S. Sprague.

On Unfinished Business—D. Greenleaf and Jas. J. Rowan.

On Foreign Communications—R. M. Gaines and John Wood.

On Subordinate Lodges—D. Greenleaf and P. F. Merrick.

On Propositions and Grievances—P. F. Merrick and T. Lewis.

On motion of S. Sprague, it was

Resolved, That when this Grand Lodge adjourns, it do adjourn until tomorrow, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Secretary read a communication from Quitman Lodge, No. 18, approving a resolution of the M. W. Grand Lodge, prohibiting the use of ardent spirits in the refreshment room of the Grand Lodge, which, on motion, was ordered to be filed.

The Grand Lodge then, on motion, adjourned until three o'clock, P. M., tomorrow.

TUESDAY, February 22, 1831.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Representatives same as yesterday, with the addition of Andrew Brown and S. Cotton, representatives from Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, who produced their credentials and took their seats, and J. Collier, a representative from Washington Lodge, No. 3.

William P. Mellen was, on petition, duly elected a member of this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Secretary made his annual report, accompanied by the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary's accounts, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's books and papers.

REPORT.

The Grand Secretary, in presenting his annual account current, begs leave to state that during the past year, he has received six thousand seven hundred and forty-six dollars and ninety-one cents, one thousand eight hundred and forty dollars of which was for an accommodation note of \$2000 discounted in bank, payable in January, 1832; \$889.39 for a note discounted in bank, at sixty days, for \$888.89, which falls due on the 31st of March, which must be paid, and for the payment of which, the Grand Lodge have only to depend on what money will be received at this communication, and what the Natchez Royal Arch Chapter and Harmony Lodge, No. 1, will be able to loan them by that time, they having passed resolutions to loan the Grand Lodge all the money they could spare. Could that note be paid, the Grand Lodge would have nothing more to pay until next January. It will be perceived, by the Grand Treasurer's report, that our accommodation note, in the Bank State of Mississippi, of \$2,666 87 has been paid.

Asylum Lodge, No. 6, have not yet paid their dues for returns of 1829, and there is a balance due from several other Lodges and individual members.

Harmony Lodge, No. 1, and Andrew Jackson, No. 1, have each paid \$300 subscription to the Masonic Hall, for which, by a resolution of the Grand Lodge at its last Communication, the Building Committee are authorized to guarantee to them the use of the Masonic Hall to hold their meetings, free of rent, so long as said Hall shall stand and be used as such.

By a resolution of the Grand Lodge at its last Communication, it was made imperative on all the Subordinate Lodges, so to alter their By-Laws, that no application for initiation shall be received, unless accompanied by the fees for the three degrees. The resolution was duly forwarded to each Subordinate Lodge, not one of which have given the Grand Secretary notice that they have altered their By-Laws in conformity thereto.

By another resolution the Grand Secretary notified Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, to file their charges and specifications against Thomas Massey, whom they expelled; which they have not done.

By another resolution the Grand Secretary had fifty copies printed of a circular, directed to the Subordinate Lodges, soliciting pecuniary aid. Columbus Lodge, No. 5, is the only one, besides Harmony and Andrew Jackson Lodges, that afforded the Grand Lodge any aid.

By another resolution the Grand Secretary informed Robert Parkinson that his dues were remitted, and that he had leave to withdraw his obnoxious letter to the Grand Secretary, dated December 29, 1829; which letter he has not withdrawn.

The Grand Secretary, as one of the Building Committee, begs leave to inform the Grand Lodge, that they have not yet been able to finish the Masonic Hall, partly owing to the non-performance of the contract on the part of the architect and partly to the embarrassed state of our finances. But they have the pleasure to state, that there have been a number of repairs to the Hall, such as fences, out buildings, etc., which they deemed essentially necessary; and they likewise state, that the lower apartments of the Hall are rented to permanent tenants for \$350 per annum.

The contract with D. Malcom, for the Masonic Hall Lottery, still continues, and there will probably be a revenue from that source of \$500, for the ensuing year.

The Grand Lodge can, with confidence, look forward to the time when they will be entirely unembarrassed, and receive a revenue of at least \$1500 per annum, a sum which will enable them to distribute their charities with a liberal hand, throughout the State; but, in the meantime, great exertion will be necessary to meet our present payment, and although the Treasurer reports a balance in the Treasury of nearly \$1400, it is owing to that amount paid to our M. W. Grand Master, in part payment for what he advanced to the Grand Lodge, and owing to his absence, no vouchers could be obtained. The Grand Lodge still owing him a small sum for advances, and had it not been for the timely aid received from him, the Grand Lodge would have probably suffered essentially in their credit, but which, I have the pleasure to state, has been sustained in every instance. All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. F. MERRICK. Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer presented their reports, showing a balance in the Treasury of \$1394.86; total receipts for the year \$6746.91; expenditures \$5352.05.

The Grand Lodge then, on motion, adjourned until half-past seven o'clock, P. M.

HALF-PAST SEVEN O'CLOCK, P. M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

There being but a few members present the Grand Lodge adjourned until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

NATCHEZ, February 23, 1831.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Lodges Represented—Harmony, No. 1, Washington, No. 3, Rising Virtue, No. 7, Lafayette, No. 12, Ben. Franklin, No. 11, and Quitman, No. 18.

The Committee on Propositions and Grievances made the following report: That there has nothing come before them to report to this Grand Lodge.

Which, on motion, was received and laid on the table.

On motion of D. Greenleaf, it was

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will go into an election of its officers for the ensuing year, at ten o'clock, P. M., this day.

On motion, the Grand Lodge then adjourned until seven o'clock this evening

FEBRUARY 23, SEVEN O'CLOCK, P. M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

G. Hail's appeal from the decision of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, expelling him from the benefits of Masonry, was read, and referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

The resolution of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, expelling Gatewood Hail from the benefits of Masonry, was read and referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

The Committee on Unfinished Business made the following report, which, on motion, was read and laid on the table:

The Committee on Unfinished Business beg leave to report, that there are lying on the table several proposed amendments to the Constitution, viz:

An amendment offered by J. B. Morgan, to the fourth section of the third article.

An amendment offered by Duncan S. Walker, to the fourth section of the third article.

An amendment offered by S. Sprague, for the introduction of an additional article, empowering this Grand Lodge to divide this State into Masonic Districts and to appoint a Deputy Grand Master to each District, etc.

An amendment offered by J. B. Morgan, as an additional section to the first article, requiring the Subordinate Lodges, at their annual returns, to report all amendments to their By-Laws.

An amendment offered by J. B. Morgan, on the subject of restoring expelled members of Subordinate Lodges to their former privileges.

Your Committee further report, that at the last Grand Annual Communication, the petition of Thomas Massey, praying an appeal, was favorably received, the appeal granted, and the trial set for the second day of the session of the Grand Lodge. They would therefore suggest, that Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, being ready for trial, do now file its charges against said Massey; and inasmuch as said Massey has not yet made his appearance, and there being no evidence of his default being intentional, that the whole proceedings be laid over until the next Grand Annual Communication, and that notice be given to said Massey that unless he prosecute his appeal at that time, the judgment of the Lodge below will be confirmed.

Your Committee further report that a resolution was passed at the last Grand Annual Communication, directing the appointment of a Special Committee to examine the Treasurer's books for the last ten years, for purposes

therein specified, with power, if necessary, to employ an accountant, and to report thereon at the next Annual Communication. Your Committee deem it important that the objects intended to be accomplished by that resolution should not be declined; they therefore, beg leave to call the attention of the Lodge to this subject again.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. GREENLEAF,
JAS. J. ROWAN.
Committee.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report, which, on motion, was received and laid on the table :

That, out of sixteen Lodges, in good standing, within the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, returns have been received from twelve, which are as follows, viz : Harmony Lodge, No. 1, Andrew Jackson, No. 2, Washington, No. 3, Warren, No. 4, Columbus, No. 5, Rising Virtue, No. 7, Hiram, No. 9, Ben Franklin, No. 11, Lafayette, No. 12, Clinton, No. 16, Quitman, No. 18, Leaf River, No. 19; and that the returns from the Lodges have been examined and are believed to be correct.

Your Committee are of the opinion that an individual officer of a Subordinate Lodge has no power to appoint a proxy to represent himself or his Lodge, without the concurrence of said Lodge and certificate thereof and seal of the Lodge appended by the Secretary. They therefore report that four of the foregoing Lodges, Warren, Columbus, Clinton and Leaf River, are without representatives or proxies; the others are regularly represented.

No returns have been received from the remaining four Lodges, viz : Asylum No. 6, Franklin, No. 10, Jefferson, No. 15, Leake, No. 17; nor are they represented at this Grand Annual Communication. And one of these Lodges, viz : Asylum, No. 6, is now in arrears for two successive Grand Annual Communications; and your Committee suggest that the 5th section of the 3d article of the Constitution be enforced, with regard to said Lodge.

Your Committee further report that, at the Grand Annual Communication in 1829, a resolution was passed, requiring the W. M. of Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, to call upon the officers of Monroe Lodge, No. 13, and demand surrender of their charter and jewels; and that in pursuance of that resolution, a demand was made, but refused, for reasons assigned, that they had no jewels and never had a charter. Your Committee state, that a charter was granted and furnished to said Lodge on the 2d January, 1826; they therefore suggest that the M. W. Grand Master be authorized to renew the demand of said Lodge.

By a resolution at the last Grand Annual Communication, the M. W. Grand Master was requested to demand the charter and jewels of Covington Lodge, No. 8; no report having been received from him, your Committee beg leave to suggest that if such demand has not been made, the request to the M. W. Grand Master be renewed.

Your Committee further report that by a resolution of this Grand Lodge, passed at its Grand Annual Communication, in 1829, all Subordinate Lodges were required to transmit, together with their annual returns, a copy of their By-Laws and all amendments thereto. They regret to say that the resolution has, in no instance, been complied with, and in consequence of this neglect, your Committee are unable to report upon the subject of the resolution of this Grand Lodge, at its last Grand Annual Communication, requiring a change in the By-Laws of all the Subordinate Lodges, so as to regulate their working in certain things therein specified, by one uniform mode. They therefore suggest that time be given to said Lodges, till the first day of August next, to furnish a copy of their By-Laws and all amendments thereto.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

D. GREENLEAF,
P. F. MERRICK,
Committee.

The committee on the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's books and papers, made the following report, which was received and laid on the table :

The committee appointed to examine the books and papers of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, report :

That, on examination, they find the books and papers of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer well arranged and correctly kept, since our last Annual Communication. They have observed that many accounts, of several years standing, yet remain unsettled ; but this fact having been heretofore noticed, and provision made for the adjustment of those accounts, your committee deem it unnecessary to enlarge upon that subject.

Respecting the account current of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, which have been referred to this committee, we find the proper vouchers to sustain all the charges therein made against the Grand Lodge.

The account of P. F. Merrick, Grand Secretary, of Francis Little and R. and M. Stewart, appear to be correct, and ought, in the opinion of your committee, to be allowed.

Touching the case of Bro. Robert Parkinson, your committee are advised that our M. : W. : Grand Master is in possession of evidence of importance on that subject, which cannot now be obtained ; they therefore beg to be excused from expressing any opinion on the subject, and respectfully suggest the postponement of its further consideration, until the evidence above mentioned, can be obtained.

Your committee regret to learn, that embarrassments exist, which may impede the completion of the Masonic Hall ; and as far as relates to the "non-performance of the contract by the architect," your committee would recommend that this be made a subject of inquiry, to be submitted to a special committee, and that the architect be notified thereof, that he may attend, if he think proper.

It affords your committee the sincerest pleasure to find, by the report now before them, that, notwithstanding the many embarrassments that have heretofore existed, they have been, so far, surmounted, by the exertions and liberality of brethren, particularly our M. : W. : Grand Master, that the Grand Lodge may confidently look forward to the time, when freed from those embarrassments, they will be enabled to proceed to the liberal distribution of charities.

Your committee believe that anything further from them, concerning the Grand Secretary's report, would be superfluous ; and, therefore, as regards the other subjects therein contained, beg leave to refer to the report itself, which, together with this, is respectfully submitted.

S. SPRAGUE,
THOS. LEWIS,
Committee.

Thomas G. Ellis, on petition, was duly elected a member of this Grand Lodge.

On motion of S. Sprague, it was

Resolved, That Asylum Lodge, No. 6, be suspended, until they comply with the requisitions of the M. : W. : Grand Lodge, as required by the constitution of the same, and that the Grand Secretary notify the said Lodge of this resolution, within 60 days from the adjournment of this Grand Annual Communication.

On motion of P. F. Merrick, it was

Resolved, That Franklin No. 10, Jefferson Lodge, No. 15, and Leake Lodge, No. 17, have until the first day of May next, to make their returns and pay their dues.

In consequence of the absence of R. M. Gaines, Wm. Provan was placed on the Committee on Foreign Communications, in his stead.

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals, made the following report, which, on motion, was received and agreed to:

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals, to whom was referred the appeal of G. Hail, beg leave to report, that they have had the same under consideration and recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, file with the Grand Secretary their charges and specifications against Bro. G. Hail, within one day from the date hereof, and that the Grand Secretary give a copy of the same to Bro. G. Hail on the same day, and cite the said Bro. Hail to appear and answer the same, at this or the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge—at his option.

JO. DUNBAR,
S. SPRAGUE,
Committee.

The Committee on Foreign Communications made their report, which, on motion, was received and laid on the table.

On motion of S. Sprague, it was

Resolved, That the following resolution, adopted at the Grand Communication of this M. W. Grand Lodge: "*Resolved*, That it be made imperative upon all the Subordinate Lodges, within the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, so to alter and amend the By-Laws of their respective Lodges, that hereafter every person applying to be initiated in the secrets and thereby be entitled to the privileges and benefits of Masonry, shall on his first application, pay the sum requisite to raise him to the sublime degree of a Master Mason; and that if at any stage of his advancement to that degree, he should be found unworthy, then a proportionate part of the money, for such degree or degrees as the candidate was not allowed to receive, to be returned," be rescinded.

The Grand Lodge then went into an election of its Officers for the ensuing year. On counting the ballots, the following persons were duly elected:

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Deputy Grand Master.
JOS. DUNBAR.....	Grand Senior Warden.
S. T. O. HAWKINS.....	Grand Junior Warden.
D. GREENLEAF.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
P. F. MERRICK.....	Grand Secretary.
T. G. ELLIS.....	Grand Marshal.
R. ANDERSON.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
H. MCFARREN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
A. D. SPRIGGS.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 9 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

FEBRUARY 24th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

Lodges represented—Washington, No. 3; Rising Virtue, No. 8; B. Franklin, No. 11, and LaFayette, No. 12.

The report of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges was then taken up, and, on motion, agreed to.

On motion of P. F. Merrick, it was

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master appoint some brother, or brethren,

to renew the demand in the name of this Grand Lodge, from some of the late officers of Monroe Lodge, No. 13, and Covington Lodge, No. 8, for the surrender of their charters and jewels.

On motion of D. Greenleaf, it was

Resolved, That the several Subordinate Lodges have time given them until the third Monday of February next, to transmit to the Secretary of this Grand Lodge, copies of their by-laws and all amendments which have been made thereto, and that the same be returned, duly certified, under the hands and seal of their several Secretaries.

On motion of D. Greenleaf, it was

Resolved, That the M.: W.: Grand Master, in pursuance of the report of the committee on the Grand Secretary and Treasurer's books, do appoint a select committee to investigate the differences between the Building Committee and the architect of the Masonic Hall, and that they be empowered to call before them said Building Committee and said architect and necessary witnesses, at some convenient time and place, due notice being given to the parties, and that they have leave to report to the present or the next Grand Annual Communication, or to any special meeting of this Grand Lodge, that may be convened for that purpose.

The Deputy Grand Master appointed Thos. G. Ellis, R. M. Gaines and W. P. Mellen, as said committee.

The report of the committee on the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's books and papers, was then taken up and, on motion, agreed to.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Communications, was then taken up, and in consequence of the absence of W. Provan, one of the committee, Thos. G. Ellis was placed on the committee in his stead. The report was then recommitted to the committee.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 7 o'clock, this evening.

FEBRUARY 24th, 7 o'clock P. M.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

Daniel C. Miller was, on petition, duly elected a member of this Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Foreign Communications made their report, which, on motion, was received. The report was amended by striking out all the report, except the following, which was, on motion agreed to :

The Committee on Foreign Communications beg leave to report: That they have examined Communications from the Grand Lodges of Ohio, Massachusetts, New York, Maryland, New Hampshire, Missouri, Kentucky, Delaware, Vermont, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Georgia, and Nova Scotia, in New Brunswick, and have found nothing demanding the particular attention of this Grand Lodge.

THOS. G. ELLIS,
JOHN WOODS,
Committee.

Resolved, That it is expedient to amend the 4th and 8th sections of article 1st, of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge.

An amendment offered by D. Greenleaf, to the 4th section of article 1st, of the Constitution :

Resolved, That the 4th section of the 1st article of the Constitution shall be so amended, as to read as follows: "The Officers of the Grand Lodge shall be elected at their Grand Annual Communication, by ballot, and duly installed at such time as the same may be holden, which time shall be fixed by this Grand Lodge, agreeably to the provisions contained in this Constitution."

An amendment offered by D. Greenleaf, to the 8th section of the 1st article of the Constitution:

Resolved, That the 8th section of the 1st article of the Constitution shall be so amended as to read as follows: "The Grand Lodge shall have power at each Grand Annual Communication, to fix by resolution the time of holding its next Grand Annual Communication or Communications, which time of meeting, so fixed, shall be the Grand Annual Communication, when the returns from the Subordinate Lodges shall be received and examined, and committees appointed to examine the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer, Secretary and Steward; to examine visiting brethren, and make reports on complaints and appeals, and give their opinion on all questions and matters submitted to the Grand Lodge for investigation."

The report of the Committee on Unfinished Business was then taken up and agreed to.

On motion of P. F. Merrick, it was

Resolved, That, whereas, Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, having filed their charges and specifications against Thomas Massey, whom they had expelled, and who has appealed to this Grand Lodge; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary furnish said Massey with a copy of said charges and specifications, and cite him to appear on the second day of the session of the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, and answer said charges and specifications, and unless he then appears, the judgment of the Lodge below shall be confirmed; and be it further

Resolved That the Grand Secretary be required to issue summonses to such persons as may be designated by Lafayette Lodge and said Massey, to be and appear before this Grand Lodge, at its next regular Annual Communication, to give testimony in the appeal of Thomas Massey from the decision of Lafayette Lodge to this Grand Lodge.

The special committee appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication, to examine the Grand Treasurer's books for the last ten years made the following report, which, on motion, was received and agreed to, and P. F. Merrick added to said committee.

The Committee appointed at the last Annual Communication, to examine the former Treasurer's books and accounts for the last ten years, beg leave to report: That, in consequence of the absence of the majority of the said Committee during the greater part of the past season, find it impossible, at this time, to make a just and true report. They, therefore, ask for further time, to make said report. Signed in behalf of said Committee.

E. WHITTFMORE.

The following communication, from Gatewood Hail, was read, and on motion, laid on the table:

To the M. W. Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

Understanding that, at the present meeting of your Most Worshipful Lodge, certain charges and specifications have been preferred against me, in relation to a notice of expulsion from Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, I beg leave to request, that a trial as to the truth of those allegations, shall be gone into as soon as may suit the convenience of the Worshipful Grand Lodge.

G. HAIL.

The following amendment to the Constitution, laid on the table at the last

Grand Annual Communication, was taken up, and on the question being taken on its adoption, it was lost.

An amendment offered to the 4th section of the 3d article of the Constitution:

Every Subordinate Lodge shall be represented in the Grand Lodge by its officers, or by representatives or proxies, who must be Master Masons and members of the particular Lodges which they represent, and such appointment, whether of representatives or proxies, must be certified by the Secretary, and the seal of the Lodge affixed thereto.

The following amendment of the Constitution, which was laid on the table at the last Grand Annual Communication, was then taken up, and, on motion, adopted:

Resolved, That whenever this Grand Lodge shall reverse or abrogate the decision of a Subordinate Lodge, expelling a brother, and shall restore said brother to the benefits and privileges of Masonry, nevertheless he shall not thereby be restored to membership within the body from which he has been expelled, without its own consent."

The following amendment to the Constitution was then taken up, and, on motion, indefinitely postponed:

An amendment to the 4th section of the 3d article of the Constitution:

That every Lodge, or representative of one, be authorized to appoint a proxy to represent them or him in the Grand Lodge; *Provided*, Such representative be of equal Masonic rank with himself, and that no Grand Officer or member shall be entitled to more than three votes, nor to represent more than one Lodge.

The following amendment of the Constitution was then taken up, and, on motion, adopted:

Resolved, That the Constitution of this Grand Lodge be so amended as to insert an additional article thereto, to the following effect: This Grand Lodge shall have power to divide this State into Masonic districts and to appoint D. G. Masters to each district thereof, whose duty it shall be to visit the Subordinate Lodges within his district, at least once in each year, and make report to this Grand Lodge at its Annual Communications in each year, the situation of the Lodges visited by him.

The following amendment of the Constitution was then taken up, and on the question being taken on its adoption, it was lost:

J. B. Morgan offered the following, as an additional section to the 1st article of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge:

It shall be the duty of Lodges, Subordinate to this Grand Lodge, at their annual returns, to report all amendments to their By-Laws.

On motion of S. Sprague, it was

Resolved, That all Past Masters, by office, shall be entitled to vote in this Grand Lodge, as honorary members.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned until 9 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

FEBRUARY 25, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

John A. Watkins, S. W. of Jefferson Lodge, No. 15, produced his credentials and took his seat as a representative from said Lodge.

P. F. Merrick offered the following amendment to the Constitution, which, on motion, was laid on the table :

Resolved, That section 8th of article 1st, be so amended as to read: "first Monday in January," instead of "third Monday in February;" and that section 4th of article 1st, be so amended, as to read "January," instead of "February."

On motion of Robert Anderson, it was

Resolved, That every Master Mason in this State, be requested to transmit to the Grand Secretary, in any way he pleases, the sum of one dollar, as a donation, for the purpose of assisting to complete the Masonic Hall, and that the Grand Secretary be required to report to the Grand Lodge, such donations as he may receive, with the names of the donors.

On motion of P. F. Merrick, it was

Resolved, That the duty imposed on the M.: W.: Grand Master, to lecture on the three first degrees, be dispensed with.

On motion of D. Greenleaf, it was resolved that,

WHEREAS, Gatewood Hail, not having appeared to prosecute his appeal, therefore,

Resolved, That the further proceedings in relation thereto, be laid over until the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, unless a special Communication may be called for that purpose by the M.: W.: Grand Master.

On motion of D. Greenleaf, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed one hundred copies of such parts of the proceedings of this Grand Annual Communication, as he may deem proper, subject to the revision of the Grand Master.

No further business being before the Grand Lodge, it was, on motion, adjourned until the next Grand Annual Communication.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form.

ATTEST :

P. F. MERRICK, Grand Secretary.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF MISSISSIPPI.

(EDITION OF 1830.)

ARTICLE I.

OF THE CONSTITUTION, AUTHORITY AND DUTY OF THE GRAND LODGE.

SECTION 1. The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi shall consist of the Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Past Masters, (having been such by office) Past Masters by degree, officers of the Subordinate Lodges, or the representatives of said Lodges; but no brother shall hereafter become a member of the Grand Lodge until after petitioning, and a unanimous ballot in his favor.

SEC. 2. The Grand Lodge shall not be open for business except there be present the officers or representatives of three Subordinate Lodges.

SEC. 3. The Grand Lodge shall have authority to hear appeals, redress grievances, and remove complaints from Subordinate Lodges; to relieve distressed brethren, their widows and orphans; to assess such contributions from Subordinate Lodges for charity and other purposes, from time to time, as they shall judge right and proper for the good of Masonry, and to correspond with other Grand Lodges.

SEC. 4. (Amended January, 1827.) The officers of the Grand Lodge shall be elected at the Grand Communication in the month of February, annually, by ballot, and duly installed.

SEC. 5. The officers of the Grand Lodge shall consist of a Most Worshipful Grand Master, Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Worshipful Grand Senior Warden, Worshipful Grand Junior Warden, Most Reverend Grand Chaplain, Grand Orator, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Senior Deacon, Grand Junior Deacon, Grand Marshal, Grand Steward, Grand Sword Bearer, Grand Pursuivant and Grand Tyler; who shall be chosen from among the working members of the several Subordinate Lodges.

SEC. 6. The Grand Lodge shall have the superintendence and care of all Subordinate Lodges under their Jurisdiction, and direct all their works and designs, and see that they are executed agreeably to the laws, usages and customs of Ancient Masonry; and determine matters brought before the Grand Lodge by votes to be given in the manner observed in the election of officers.

SEC. 7. In the election of officers the following shall be the manner of voting: The voting shall be written ballots, and every Lodge present by its officers or representatives, shall be entitled to three votes, whether represented by one or more brethren, and every officer and member of the Grand Lodge otherwise entitled to be there, by being a representative of a particular Lodge, shall have one vote, and in all cases the brother who fills the chair shall have the casting vote.

SEC. 8. (Amended January, 1827.) The Grand Lodge shall meet at the city of Natchez, on the third Monday of February, annually, which shall be the Grand Annual Communication, when the returns from the Subordinate Lodges shall be received and examined, and Committees appointed to examine the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer, Secretary and Steward; to examine Visiting Brethren, and make reports on complaints and appeals, and give their opinion on all questions and matters submitted to the Grand Lodge for investigation.

SEC. 9. In case of the death, removal or incapacity to act, by sickness or otherwise of the M.: W.: Grand Master, or any other Grand Officer, all their powers or privileges shall devolve upon the following brethren according to their rank: 1st, M.: W.: Grand Master; 2d, R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master; 3d, Past Grand Senior Warden; 4th, Worshipful Grand Junior Warden; 5th, Past Grand Officers, according to their rank; 6th, the presiding officers of the Subordinate Lodges, according to their rank; 7th, Past Masters, according to seniority.

SEC. 10. The Grand Lodge may appoint some expert and well-informed member as Grand Lecturer, to visit the Subordinate Lodges at their request, to teach and instruct them in the Sublime Art, at the expense of the Lodges instructed.

ARTICLE II.

OF THE AUTHORITY AND DUTY OF THE MOST WORSHIPFUL GRAND MASTER.

SECTION 1. The M.: W.: Grand Master shall have power, at any time, to convene the Grand Lodge for the benefit of Masonry.

SEC. 2. The M.: W.: Grand Master shall have power to grant dispensations for new Lodges, in the recess of the Grand Lodge, upon condition that the brethren to whom such dispensation may be granted, make application to the Grand Lodge at their next Grand Annual Communication, for a charter or warrant, and if such application shall not be made, or the charter or warrant not be granted by the Grand Lodge, the Lodge erected by such dispensation shall be dissolved, and the funds and jewels thereof become the property of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 3. The M.: W.: Grand Master shall appoint some suitable member of the Grand Lodge as Deputy Grand Master, to be commissioned under his hand and seal, and duly installed.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the M.: W.: Grand Master, during his term of service, to visit the several Subordinate Lodges under his Jurisdiction, and see that no innovation be committed in the works of Masonry; to teach and instruct them in the laws, usages and customs of the Sublime Art, or to appoint and authorize any skillful and well informed member of the Grand Lodge for that purpose.

SEC. 5. (Amended January, 1826.) It shall be the duty of the Grand Master to install his deputy and other officers of the Grand Lodge, and the officers of Subordinate Lodges; but if it is inconvenient for him or the Deputy Grand Master to attend in person, any Past Master, being a member of the Grand Lodge or some Subordinate Lodge to this Grand Lodge, may install the officers of Subordinate Lodges, and make a return of his proceedings to the M.: W.: Grand Master.

ARTICLE III.

OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

SECTION 1. A competent number of Master Masons, of regular standing, upon petition to the Grand Lodge, or Grand Master, shall receive a dispensation authorizing them to congregate and work until the next Grand Annual Communication; for which dispensation the petitioners shall pay into the Treasury of the Grand Lodge the sum of twenty dollars, and to the Grand Secretary for his services, the further sum of ten dollars, before the dispensation shall be issued.

SEC. 2. Upon obtaining from the Grand Lodge, at their Grand Annual Communication, a charter or warrant, authorizing them to congregate and work as a just and regular constituted Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, the petitioners shall pay a further sum of twenty dollars, and to the Grand Secretary, for his services, a further sum of ten dollars, before the charter or warrant shall be issued; and no Subordinate Lodge shall confer any other degrees than those of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason; which shall be so expressed in their dispensation, charter or warrant.

SEC. 3. Every Subordinate Lodge shall pay into the Treasury of the Grand Lodge, annually, the following contributions: First, for every degree conferred upon candidates the preceding year, the sum of one dollar; for every member, the sum of one dollar annually.

SEC. 4. Every Subordinate Lodge shall be represented in the Grand Lodge by its officers, representatives or proxies, who must be Master Masons, and members of some Lodge under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge; and such appointment, whether of representative or proxies, must be certified by the Secretary, and the seal of the Lodge affixed thereto.

SEC. 5. Every Subordinate Lodge which is not represented in the Grand Lodge for two successive Grand Communications, or is in arrears to the Grand Lodge for the same term of time, shall be suspended from working until they comply with those requisitions; and upon the neglect or refusal of any Subordinate Lodge to comply with the requisitions aforesaid, the Grand Lodge shall notify the delinquent Lodge to comply, as aforesaid, at or before the next Grand Annual Communication, and upon further neglect or refusal of the said delinquent Lodge to comply, agreeably to notification, the charter or warrant of the said Lodge shall be withdrawn.

ARTICLE IV.

OF THE AUTHORITY AND DUTY OF PARTICULAR OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE, AND OTHER PURPOSES.

SECTION 1. The Grand Master, and in his absence the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Senior Warden, and Grand Junior Warden, shall be the Grand Committee of Charity; each of whom shall have authority to draw on the Grand Treasurer for any sum deemed sufficient to relieve a suffering brother, his widow or orphans.

SEC. 2. The aforesaid Grand Officers shall be the Standing Committee of Accounts, and are authorized to settle the contingent expenses of the Grand Lodge, and draw on the Grand Treasurer for the same.

SEC. 3. The Grand Treasurer shall lay a statement of his accounts before the Grand Lodge at their Grand Annual Communication, and in other respects perform his duty as such agreeably to immemorial usage.

SEC. 4. The Grand Secretary shall attend on every assembly of the Grand Lodge, and the Grand Annual Communication, to lay before the Grand Lodge

his books in good order, and his papers duly filed; and do the duty of his office agreeably to immemorial usage.

SEC. 5. The Grand Secretary shall receive for his services, twenty-five cents for every hundred words written for the use and under the direction of the Grand Lodge; and for copies from the records, files and proceedings of the Grand Lodge, the sum of twenty-five cents for every hundred words, to be paid by the party applying for the same, dispensations and warrants excepted, they being already provided for; and for affixing the seal of the Grand Lodge to any instrument of writing, the sum of one dollar, to be paid by the party applying.

SEC. 6. But for affixing the seal of the Grand Lodge to any instrument of writing for the use of the Grand Lodge, summons and copies of proceedings and communications sent to Foreign Grand Lodges, and such like services, the Grand Secretary shall receive no compensation.

SEC. 7. The Grand Secretary shall provide a seal for the Grand Lodge, as soon as convenient, with such device as the Lodge may direct.

SEC. 8. (Amended January, 1825.) Every member of the Grand Lodge shall pay into the treasury thereof the sum of one dollar annually, towards defraying the contingent expenses of the same.

SEC. 9. Every member of the Grand Lodge shall be a member of some Subordinate Lodge, and upon demission, suspension or expulsion from a Subordinate Lodge, the seat of such person in the Grand Lodge becomes *ipso facto* vacated, and his membership ceases; provided he has not claimed the benefit of and prosecuted an appeal.

SEC. 10. No officer of any Subordinate Lodge shall resign his office or demit during the period for which he shall have been elected and installed; every vacancy shall be filled by appointment *pro tempore*, until the regular period of election and installation.

SEC. 11. Whenever the Grand Lodge shall deem it expedient to amend any article or section of this Constitution, the proposed amendment shall be reduced to writing and committed to record; a copy of which shall be transmitted to every Subordinate Lodge, and laid over for consideration until the next Grand Annual Communication, when, if upon investigation, two-thirds of the members of the Grand Lodge shall concur therein, the same shall be considered as a part of this Constitution.

JOHN A. QUITMAN, Grand Master.

P. F. MERRICK, Grand Secretary.

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1832.

NATCHEZ, February 20, 1832.

PRESENT :

R. W. THOMAS P. FALCONER.....	Deputy Grand Master.
STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Senior Warden.
THOMAS WOOLDRIDGE.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
ROBERT ANDERSON.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
P. F. MERRICK.....	Grand Secretary.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Grand Lodge opened in Ample Form in the Third Degree of Masonry.

The following representatives from Subordinate Lodges produced their credentials and took their seats, viz :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—Robert Stewart.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—And. Brown and J. M. Steele.

Benj. Franklin, No. 11—Robert Anderson.

Lafayette No. 12—Thos. P. Falconer.

Clinton, No. 16—T. Wooldridge, R. J. Fitz.

Leaf River, No. 19—Lewis Rhodes.

The following Lodges were not represented :

Washington, No. 3, Warren, No. 4, Columbus, No. 5, Rising Virtue, No. 7, Hiram, No. 9, Franklin, No. 10, Jefferson, No. 15, Leake, No. 17, Quitman, No. 18.

The Deputy Grand Master then announced the following Standing Committees :

To Examine the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Papers—William P. Mellen and S. Sprague.

To Audit the Accounts of the Grand Steward and Tyler—Robert Stewart and A. Brown.

On Unfinished Business—T. Wooldridge and Robert Stewart.

On Complaints and Appeals—Jos. Dunbar and A. Brown.

On Foreign Communications—H. Milliard.

On Subordinate Lodges—P. F. Merrick and R. Anderson.

On Propositions and Grievances—P. F. Merrick and Robert J. Fitz.

On motion of S. Sprague, it was

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to take into consideration the propriety of dividing the State into Masonic districts; and if deemed necessary to district the same, to report the number and boundaries of said districts.

The Deputy Grand Master appointed S. Sprague, T. Wooldridge and Robert Anderson as said Committee.

On petition of Bros. Wooldridge and Fitz, it was

Ordered, That the Committee of Propositions and Grievances be instructed to inquire into the propriety of permitting Clinton Lodge, No. 16, to alter and amend their By-Laws by the vote of a less number than a majority of the whole number of the members of said Lodge, and that the said Committee report by resolution, or otherwise.

On motion of S. Sprague, it was

Resolved, That when this Grand Lodge adjourns, it do adjourn until tomorrow at 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Secretary made the following report, accompanied with the account current of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Papers:

The Grand Secretary, in presenting his annual account current, begs leave to state that he has received, during the past year, \$1883 14, the whole of which has been paid to the Grand Treasurer, and applied by him to pay the current expenses of the Grand Lodge, and liquidate nearly all the debts owing by the Grand Lodge, except the \$2000 debt in the Bank of the State of Mississippi, which has been renewed for another year, but the interest thereon has been paid.

In compliance with a resolution of the Grand Lodge, at its last Annual Communication, I notified Asylum Lodge, No. 6, of their suspension until they complied with the requisitions of the Constitution, but have not received any communication from them.

By another resolution, I have cited Thomas Massey to appear on the second day of the present session of this Grand Lodge, to prosecute his appeal from the decision of Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, expelling him from said Lodge, and likewise forwarded him a copy of the charges and specifications preferred by Lafayette Lodge against him.

In compliance with another resolution, I herewith transmit a list of persons who have paid the Grand Secretary the sum of one dollar, as a donation for the purpose of assisting to complete the Masonic Hall; and although the sum is small, being only \$41, yet hopes are entertained that when returns are received from all the secretaries of Subordinate Lodges, to whom I sent a copy of the resolution, that a considerable sum will yet be received.

It is with pleasure, as one of the Building Committee, that I can inform the Grand Lodge that the architect is about completing his contract to finish the Masonic Hall; and I am informed by him that he has done extra work to the Hall, which does not come under his contract, and for the payment of which he is only to look to the justice of this Grand Lodge. The M. W. Grand Master is in favor of the architect's receiving a reasonable compensation for all extra work done to the Hall; the amount of which, and the nature of the work, will probably be laid before the Grand Lodge at this session. The original contract with the architect for completing the Hall was \$10,000, about \$9,000 of which has been paid him; the balance he is to receive on its completion, which is nearly all the Grand Lodge will have to pay the ensuing year; and although our treasury is empty, there are considerable sums due by Subordinate Lodges, which, with the rent of the Hall, (it is hoped) will entirely clear the Grand Lodge from debt, except the \$2000 note.

All which is respectfully submitted,

P. F. MERRICK,
Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary submitted his annual account, showing the total receipts to have been \$1903 36.

The Grand Treasurer submitted his annual account, showing the expenditures of the year to have been \$3298 22, \$1394 86 of which was derived from the balance on hand from the preceding year.

On motion, the Grand Lodge then adjourned.

TUESDAY, 7 o'clock, P. M., February 21, 1832.

The M.: W.: Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The following Subordinate Lodges being represented :

Harmony, No. 1—Robert Stewart and H. Millard.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—A. Brown and Jas. H. Steele.

Washington, No. 3—S. J. McCandless.

Hiram, No. 9—H. McFarren, T. Lewis, Jos. Dunbar.

Benjamin Franklin, No. 11—Robert Anderson.

Lafayette, No. 12—Thos. P. Falconer.

Clinton, No. 16—T. Wooldridge, Robert J. Fitz.

Leaf River, No. 19—Lewis Rhodes.

H. McFarren, Thos. Lewis, Joseph Dunbar, representatives from Hiram Lodge, No. 9, and S. J. McCandless, representative from Washington Lodge, No. 3, produced their credentials and took their seats.

The Committee on the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Papers, made the following report, which, on motion, was received and agreed to :

The Committee, to whom were referred the Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's Books and Accounts, together with the Grand Secretary's report, beg leave to report: That they have examined the same, and find that the books have been correctly kept, and the papers in good order and well arranged. They have also examined the respective accounts current of these officers with the Grand Lodge, and find every charge sustained by the proper voucher.

As the Grand Secretary's report is short, and explains fully the present situation of the Grand Lodge in regard to its finances and its future prospects, your Committee recommend its being read in open Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WM. P. MELLEN,
S. SPRAGUE,
Committee.

The Committee on Unfinished Business made the following report, which, on motion, was received and laid on the table :

The Committee on Unfinished Business report: That there are lying on the table several proposed amendments to the Constitution, to-wit: An amendment offered by D. Greenleaf, to amend the 4th section of the 1st article of the Constitution. An amendment offered by D. Greenleaf, to amend the 8th section of the 1st article of the Constitution.

They also find upon the minutes the appeals of Gatewood Hail and Thomas Massey, which were laid over for further proceedings to be had thereon at this Grand Communication.

The Committee on Unfinished Business further report that they find on the minutes, as unfinished business, the following amendments, proposed by P. F. Merrick, to amend the 8th and 4th sections of the 1st article of the Constitution.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

THOS. WOOLDRIDGE,
ROBERT STEWART,
Committee.

Anthony Campbell and Thos. Lewis were added to the Committee on Foreign Communications.

The Committee on Propositions and Grievances made the following report, which, on motion, was received and laid on the table:

The Committee on Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the application of Bros. Wooldridge and Fitz, in behalf of Clinton Lodge, No. 16, praying the Grand Lodge to pass a resolution to empower the members of said Clinton Lodge to alter and amend their By-Laws by a majority of a less number than a majority of all the members of their Lodge, as prescribed by their By-Laws, beg leave to report that, after due consideration, your Committee think that it would be greatly to the advantage of said Lodge that the following resolution should be passed:

Resolved, That any number of the members of Clinton Lodge, No. 16, not less than ten, may, and they are hereby authorized and empowered to alter and amend all such parts of their By-Laws as they may deem fit and expedient; *Provided*, Each member of the Lodge have notice that such an amendment was offered at the last regular meeting, and will be acted on at the next regular meeting ensuing.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

P. F. MERRICK,
ROBERT J. FITZ,
Committee.

The Special Committee appointed to divide the State into Masonic Districts, made the following report, which, on motion, was received and laid on the table.

The Committee, appointed to take into consideration, the propriety of dividing the State of Mississippi into convenient Masonic Districts, beg leave to report that taking into consideration the usual divisions of the State, they recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the State of Mississippi be divided into three Masonic Districts:

The first district to embrace the following counties, to-wit: Warren, Washington, Yazoo, Madison, Hinds, Rankin, Lowndes and Monroe.

Second District—Claiborne, Copiah, Jefferson, Adams, Wilkinson, Amite, Franklin, Lawrence and Marion.

Third District—Perry, Pike, Simpson, Wayne, Jones, Greene, Hancock, Covington and Jackson.

All which is respectfully submitted,

S. SPRAGUE,
T. WOOLDRIDGE,
R. ANDERSON,
Committee.

The Grand Secretary read a letter from the Worshipful Master of Washington Lodge, No. 3, which, on motion, was ordered to be filed.

Andrew Brown, the architect of the Masonic Hall, presented his account, amounting to \$819 65, for extra work done to the Hall which is not included in his contract, which, on motion, was referred to the Building Committee, with powers to adjust it as they may consider just and equitable.

The report of the Committee on Unfinished Business was then taken up.

The following amendments to the Constitution, offered by D. Greenleaf, at the last Annual Communication, were taken up, and on motion, rejected :

Resolved, That the 4th section of the 1st article of the Constitution shall be so amended as to read as to read as follows :

The officers of the Grand Lodge shall be elected at their Grand Annual Communication, by ballot, and duly installed, at such time as the same may be holden, which time shall be fixed by this Grand Lodge, agreeably to the provisions contained in the Constitution.

Resolved, That the 8th section of the 1st article of the Constitution shall be so amended as to read as follows : The Grand Lodge shall have power, at each Grand Annual Communication, to fix, by resolution, the time of holding its next Grand Annual Communication or Communications, which time of meeting, so fixed, shall be the Grand Annual Communication, when the returns of the Subordinate Lodges shall be received and examined, and committees appointed to examine the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, to examine visiting brethren and make reports on Complaints and Appeals, and give their opinion on all questions and matters submitted to the Grand Lodge for investigation.

The following amendment to the Constitution, offered by P. F. Merrick, at the last Annual Communication, was then taken up, and, on motion, was agreed to, more than two-thirds of the members present voting in its favor :

Resolved, That section 8th of article 1st, be so amended as to read, "first Monday in January," instead of "third Monday in February," and that section 4th of article 1st be so amended as to read "January," instead of "February."

The report of the Committee was then agreed to.

The Grand Lodge then, on motion, went into the trial of Thos. Massey, on his appeal from the decision of Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, expelling him from the benefits of Masonry, for unmasonic conduct. After a careful investigation of the evidence, the question was taken as to his guilt or innocence, and he was declared not guilty. He was accordingly reinstated to his Masonic rank.

The report of the Special Committee to divide the State into Masonic Districts was then taken up, and, on motion, agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

T. Wooldridge offered the following amendment to the Constitution, which was read and laid on the table :

Resolved, That the 10th section of the 1st article of the Constitution be so amended as to read, "The Grand Lodge shall appoint some expert and well informed Mason as Grand Lecturer, whose duty it shall be to visit the Subordinate Lodges, to teach and instruct them in the sublime art."

On motion, adjourned until to-morrow, 3 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, February 22d, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The report of the Committee on Propositions and Grievances was then taken up, and agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted :

WHEREAS, Gatewood Hail having failed to appear and prosecute his appeal from the decision of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, expelling him from said Lodge; therefore, be it

Resolved, That said appeal be dismissed.

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals reported that no business had been submitted to them.

The Committee on Foreign Communications made their report, which, on motion, was received and agreed to :

Committee on Foreign Communications beg leave to report that they have examined communications from the Grand Lodges of Louisiana, Kentucky, Alabama, Territory of Florida, Indiana, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Maryland, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Virginia, Nova Scotia in New Brunswick, and have found nothing demanding the particular attention of this Grand Lodge, excepting a communication from the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island accompanying an address of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, to the people of said State, recommending the same to the particular notice of this Grand Lodge.

HENRY MILLARD.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges, made the following report, which, on motion, was received and agreed to :

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges, beg leave to report that, out of sixteen Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, returns have been received from ten, viz: Harmony, No. 1, Andrew Jackson, No. 2, Hiram, No. 9, Benj. Franklin, No. 11, Lafayette, No. 12, Clinton, No. 16, Leaf River, No. 19, Leake, No. 17, and that the returns have been examined and are believed to be correct.

No returns have been received from the following Lodges, viz: Warren, No. 4, Columbus, No. 5, Asylum, No. 6, Rising Virtue, No. 7, Franklin, No. 10, Jefferson, No. 15, and Quitman, Lodge, No. 18; nor are they represented at this Communication. Asylum Lodge, No. 6, was suspended at the last Communication of this Grand Lodge, until they complied with the requisitions of the Constitution, which they have not done. Franklin Lodge, No. 10, has not made returns or been represented since the Communication in 1830. Jefferson Lodge was represented in 1831, but is still owing for dues for three years.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

P. F. MERRICK,
R. ANDERSON,
Committee.

Jefferson Lodge, No. 15, Warren, No. 4, Rising Virtue, No. 7, and Quitman, No. 18, were granted until the first of May next in which to make their returns and pay dues.

Franklin Lodge, No. 10, was suspended until it should comply with the requisitions of the Grand Lodge.

Asylum Lodge, No. 6, was granted until the next Annual Communication in which to pay its dues.

The M. W. Grand Lodge then went into an election of its officers for the ensuing year. On counting the ballots, the following persons were declared duly elected :

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. T. WOOLDRIDGE.....	D. G. M. of First District.
A. WILSON.....	D. G. M., Second District.
T. P. FALCONER.....	D. G. M., Third District.
JOSEPH DUNBAR.....	Grand Senior Warden.
ROBERT ANDERSON.....	Grand Junior Warden.
REV. WM. M. CURTIS.....	Grand Chaplain.
STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.

P. F. MERRICK.....	Grand Secretary.
THOS. G. ELLIS.....	Grand Marshal.
J. S. McCANDLESS.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
HIRAM McFARREN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

A Select Committee, appointed at the last Annual Communication, to investigate the differences between the Building Committee and the Grand Architect, reported that no differences had ever existed between them, which was received and agreed to.

The Grand Steward was allowed \$40 for refreshment and general expenses and the Grand Tyler \$15 for three days services.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the duty imposed on the M.: W.: Grand Master, to lecture on the three first Degrees of Masonry, be dispensed with.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed one hundred copies of such parts of the proceedings of this Grand Annual Communication as he may deem proper, subject to the revision of the M.: W.: Grand Master.

On motion, the M.: W.: Grand Lodge adjourned until the next Annual Communication.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form.

P. F. MERRICK, Grand Secretary.

PRESENT :

The Grand Lodge adjourned until to-morrow, 2 o'clock P. M.

On Subordinate Lodges—R. J. Fitz and Edmund H. Whitfield.

The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer presented their annual accounts, which, on motion, were referred to the committee on the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's books and accounts.

The Grand Secretary's report showed the receipts to have been for the year, \$648.12. The Grand Lodge owed the Mississippi State Bank \$2,000; the Grand Secretary for advances about \$125; Andrew Brown for work on the Masonic Hall \$1,300; total indebtedness about \$3,500. Income for the next year estimated at \$500 for rents of Masonic Hall; \$200 from "the Lottery"; \$450 from Lodges; total \$1,150; showing a deficit of \$750 to provide for the note due the Mississippi State Bank.

The Grand Treasurer's report showed that he had received during the year \$648.12, which he had paid out on vouchers.

The Grand Secretary presented a resolution of Warren Lodge, No. 4, surrendering their charter and jewels to this Grand Lodge; which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Felix H. Walker, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three members of this Lodge be appointed whose duty it shall be to call on the architect employed to finish the Masonic Hall, and to ascertain from him the reasons why said building has not been finished; and to obtain such further information as may be interesting to this Lodge, and to report the same to the Grand Lodge at the present Annual Session thereof.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed Felix H. Walker, J. O. T. Hawkins and R. J. Fitz, as said committee.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until to-morrow at 2 o'clock P. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 9th—2 o'clock P. M.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

Subordinate Lodges represented:

Harmony, No. 1—William P. Mellen.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—James Steele.

Hiram, No. 6—T. Lewis.

Clinton, No. 16—R. J. Fitz, G. C. Wooldridge, — McDonald.

Raymond, U. D.—F. H. Walker.

Western Star, U. D.—E. H. Whitfield.

The Committee on Unfinished Business made the following report, which, on motion, was received and laid on the table:

The Committee appointed to examine the unfinished business have performed that duty, and report: That there is a proposed amendment to the Constitution, offered at the last Grand Annual Communication, by S. Wooldridge, to amend the 10th section of the 1st article of the Constitution, which is respectfully submitted for the consideration of the Lodge. The Committee find no other business remaining unfinished, or other duties to perform.

F. H. WALKER,
G. C. WOOLDRIDGE.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made their report, which, on motion, was received and laid on the table.

The Committee on Foreign Communications made the following report, which, on motion, was received and agreed to :

The Committee on Foreign Communications beg leave to report : That they have examined Communications from the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania, Kentucky, New Hampshire, Ohio, Virginia, North Carolina, Louisiana, a circular of the Grand Lodges of Rhode Island, New Jersey, Indiana and Georgia, and have found nothing demanding the particular attention of this Lodge. The Committee would respectfully recommend reciprocal civilities with those Grand Lodges from whom the above named Communications have been received.

J. O. T. HAWKINS,
P. F. MERRICK.

The special committee appointed to communicate with the Grand Architect of the Masonic Hall, to ascertain the reason why the Hall is not yet completed, made the following report, which, on motion, was received and laid on the table :

The committee appointed to wait on the Architect of the Masonic Hall, to ascertain the reason why said Hall has not been completed, etc., beg leave to report : That they have done so and submit the following : That the Architect, from unavoidable circumstances, has been unable to complete the work ; but he has no doubt but he will be able to complete it in the course of one month more. The committee further report, that the Architect recommends to the Grand Lodge that they should take into consideration the lining of the gutters with copper, for their preservation.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. J. FITZ,
J. O. T. HAWKINS,
F. H. WALKER,
Committee.

On motion of Rev. J. O. T. Hawkins, it was

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do earnestly recommend to all the Subordinate Lodges, within its jurisdiction, that they enforce their by-laws respecting candidates ; that no candidate be admitted to the benefits of Masonry whose moral character is not in the general conformable to the spirit of Masonry.

Resolved further, That this Grand Lodge is deeply sensible that inattention to said by-laws has proved to be one of the most fruitful sources of evil to the fraternity.

On motion of E. H. Whitfield, it was

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge receive the charter of Warren Lodge, No. 4, and that the Deputy Grand Master, of the 2d District, be authorized to receive the jewels, property, etc., of said Lodge.

The report of the Committee on Unfinished Business was then taken up, and, on motion, agreed to.

The following amendment to the Constitution, offered by T. Wooldridge at the last Annual Communication, was taken up ; and on the vote being taken, as to its passage, it was rejected :

The Grand Lodge shall appoint some expert and well informed Mason as Grand Lecturer, whose duty shall be to visit the Subordinate Lodges to teach and instruct them in the sublime art.

On motion of F. H. Walker, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge proceed at the hour of 8 o'clock, this evening, to an election of its officers for the present year.

The Grand Lodge then, on motion, adjourned until half-past 6 o'clock this evening.

WEDNESDAY, January 9, 6:30 P. M.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's books and accounts, made the following report, which, on motion, was received and agreed to:

The Committee appointed to examine the books of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, beg leave to report: That the books have been correctly kept since the last Communication of the Grand Lodge to this time. Your Committee also report, that the accounts current of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, for the past year, which were referred to them, have been examined, respectively, and the charges therein made are sustained by the proper vouchers

E. H. WHITFIELD,
THOS. LEWIS.

On motion of F. H. Walker, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge proceed, at the hour of 8 o'clock this evening, to an election of officers for the present year.

The report of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges was then taken up; and after the amendments appended thereto were amended, was agreed to:

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report: That out of the Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, returns have been received from five, viz: Harmony, No. 1; Andrew Jackson, No. 2; Clinton, No. 16; Hiram, No. 9; Western Star, No. 20; Raymond, No. 21; and that the returns have been examined and are believed to be correct.

No returns have been received from the following Lodges, viz: B. Franklin, No. 11; Lafayette, No. 12; Leaf River, No. 19; Leake, No. 17; Warren, No. 4; Columbus, No. 5; Asylum, No. 6; Washington, No. 3; Rising Virtue, No. 7; Franklin, No. 10; Jefferson, No. 15; and Quitman, No. 18, nor are they represented at this Communication.

Your Committee beg further to report, that they have proceeded to examine the returns, by-laws and proceedings of Western Star Lodge, and the return and by-laws of Raymond Lodge, now working under dispensations, and are satisfied with the work of said Lodges; and beg leave to submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That charters be granted to Western Star Lodge, No. 20, and Raymond Lodge, No. 21, and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to issue them forthwith.

Your Committee beg further to state, that upon an examination of the proceedings of the last Grand Lodge, Jefferson Lodge, No. 15, Rising Virtue, No. 7, and Quitman, No. 18, had until the 1st day of May, 1832, to comply with the requisitions of the Grand Lodge, and no evidence of their compliance appearing before the committee, they beg leave to report the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Jefferson Lodge, No. 15, Rising Virtue, No. 7, and Quitman, No. 18, having failed to pay their dues, or sent representatives to this Grand Lodge for the space of two years last past; be it therefore

Resolved, That said Lodges be suspended until they severally comply with the requisitions of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge; and that the Grand Secretary be required to notify said Lodges of this resolution.

WHEREAS, Franklin Lodge, No. 10, and Asylum, No. 5, have failed to make returns and send representatives to the Grand Lodge for the last two years, as required by the Constitution thereof, and having been notified as the Constitution directs, and having neglected to comply agreeably to such notification; therefore,

Resolved, That the Deputy Grand Masters of the Districts in which they are situated, be authorized to demand a surrender of the charters, jewels, etc., of said Lodges.

The voluntary surrender of the charter of Warren Lodge, No. 4, renders it unnecessary for the Committee to make a report respecting it.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. H. WHITFIELD,
ROBT. J. FITZ,
Committee.

On motion of E. H. Whitfield, it was

Resolved, That the M.: W.: Grand Master be hereby authorized to appoint a Grand Lecturer for the ensuing year, to visit the Subordinate Lodges, and instruct them in the sublime art, and that he devote at least four days in the year to each Subordinate Lodge, and that he receive from the Grand Lodge one hundred dollars for his services, together with one dollar from each and every member of the Subordinate Lodges.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Grand Lecturer to notify the presiding officer of each Subordinate Lodge, at least one week previous to visiting the same for the purpose of instruction, and it shall be the duty of said presiding officer, on receiving such notification, to convene his Lodge accordingly, and that the Grand Lecturer report to the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge; *provided, however*, that this resolution shall not be obligatory on Harmony Lodge, No. 1, and Andrew Jackson, No. 2.

A. W. Allan, W.: M.: of Polar Star Lodge, working under dispensation at Woodville, appeared and took his seat.

The Grand Lodge then went into an election of its officers for the ensuing year. On counting the ballots, the following persons were announced as being duly elected:

M.: W.: JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.: T. WOOLDRIDGE.....	{ Deputy Grand Master,
	{ 1st District.
A. WILSON.....	{ Deputy Grand Master,
	{ 2d District.
THOMAS P. FALCONER.....	{ Deputy Grand Master,
	{ 3d District.
W. L. SHARKEY.....	Grand Senior Warden.
G. C. WOOLDRIDGE.....	Grand Junior Warden.
REV. J. O. T. HAWKINS.....	Grand Chaplain.
STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
P. F. MERRICK.....	Grand Secretary.
THOS. G. ELLIS.....	Grand Marshal.
ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
HIRAM MCFARREN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOS. NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master announced the appointment of T. Lewis, as Grand Senior Deacon, and the Grand Senior Warden appointed Robert J. Fitz as Grand Junior Deacon.

On motion of A. W. Allan, the following preamble and resolution were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge has failed to notify the members of Polar Star Lodge, of the time of their Grand Annual Communication, and the said Polar Star Lodge being under the impression that the Grand Annual Communication would take place in the month of February; be it therefore

Resolved, That the Polar Star Lodge, now under dispensation, is entitled to a charter, upon the pledge of its representative that a copy of its proceedings

and the payment of its dues be made by the 1st of February next; and that the Grand Secretary be instructed to issue a charter forthwith.

On motion of P. F. Merrick, it was

Resolved, That Columbus Lodge, No. 5, be allowed until the 1st day of May next, to make returns for the two last years, and that Washington Lodge, No. 3, be allowed the same time to make their returns for the present year.

On motion of P. F. Merrick, it was

Resolved, That B. Franklin Lodge, No. 11, Lafayette, No. 12, Leaf River, No. 19, Leake, No. 17, be allowed until the first day of May next, to make their returns and pay their dues.

On motion of G. C. Wooldridge, it was

Resolved, That Western Star Lodge, U. D., be excused from their dues for members, for the past year.

On motion of F. H. Walker, it was

Resolved, That it is expedient to require all the Lodges subordinate to the Grand Lodge of this State, to observe in the mode of work, the customs and usages of Masonry, as pursued in the Grand Lodge.

Thos. Lewis and A. W. Allan were, on petition, duly elected members of this Grand Lodge.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master be authorized to audit the account of the Grand Steward and Tyler.

On motion, the Grand Lodge then adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, January 10th—9 o'clock A. M.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

A. W. Allan offered the following amendment to the Constitution, which was laid on the table.

No Subordinate Lodge shall *initiate*, pass to the degree of *Fellow Craft*, or raise to the sublime degree of *Master Mason*, any applicant, unless the vote be *unanimous* in his favor.

On motion of G. C. Wooldridge, it was

Resolved, That the Deputy Grand Master of the 1st District be, and he is hereby required, upon obtaining from Franklin Lodge their jewels and furniture, to hand them over to Western Star Lodge, and take a receipt from the Secretary of said Lodge for the same; which receipt shall be filed with the Grand Secretary.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That every Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge, has full power to call before it, and punish according to Masonic usages—by reprimand, suspension or expulsion—all delinquent Masons residing within its jurisdiction whether they are members of such Lodges or not.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed 100 copies of such parts of the proceedings of this Grand Annual Communication as he may deem proper, subject to the revision of the M. W. Grand Master.*

* NOTE.—All the earlier published proceedings are entitled "Extract from the Proceedings," a practice which was continued until 1846, which is the first year in which the proceedings appear to have been published in full. As the manuscript record has been lost there is now no means of supplying the complete record.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned until the next Annual Communication.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form.

P. F. MERRICK,
Grand Secretary.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1834.

NATCHEZ, January 6, 1834.

PRESENT :

R. W. PETER A. VANDORN.....	Past Dep. Grand Master.
DANIEL GREENLEAF.....	Grand Senior Warden <i>p. t.</i>
JOHN WOOD.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
J. J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
A. D. SPRIGGS.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JOHN MCGILL.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Grand Lodge opened in the Third Degree of Masonry, in due form.

The following Representatives from Subordinate Lodges produced their credentials and took their seats, viz :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—William P. Mellen.

Washington Lodge, No. 3—P. A. Vandorn, and Daniel Greenleaf.

Quitman Lodge, No. 18—John Woods.

Visitors—P. E. Boucher, Hiram, No. 10, New York; Abner Small and Hiram Gardner, Maine; John McGill, No. 165, Pittsburg, Pa.

The following Lodges were not represented, viz :

Andrew Jackson, No. 2, Columbus, No. 5, Rising Virtue, No. 7, Hiram, No. 9, Benjamin Franklin, No. 11, Lafayette, No. 12, Jefferson, No. 15, Clinton, No. 16, Leake, No. 17, Leaf River, No. 19, Western Star, No. 20, Raymond, No. 21, Polar Star, No. 22.

On motion of Daniel Greenleaf, the Grand Lodge then adjourned until tomorrow, 3 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, January, 7, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Thomas Lewis and H. McFarren, Representatives of Hiram Lodge, No. 9,

and Preston W. Farrar and G. C. McWhorter, Representative of Polar Star Lodge, No. 22, appeared, produced their credentials, and took their seats.

The annual returns of the Lodges represented at this Communication, were received and laid upon the table.

On motion of Thomas Lewis, it was

Resolved, That when this Grand Lodge adjourns, it adjourn to meet at 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned.

TUESDAY, January 7, 7 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The following Standing Committees were then announced by the chair:

To Examine the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Accounts—D. Greenleaf and Thomas Lewis.

To Audit the Account of the Grand Steward and Tyler—Wm. P. Mellen and J. J. Rowan.

On Unfinished Business—P. W. Farrar and John Wood.

On Complaints and Appeals—T. Lewis and P. L. Mitchell.

On Foreign Communications—P. W. Farrar and James M. Steele.

On Subordinate Lodges—Wm. P. Mellen and Thomas Lewis.

The following resolution was offered by Thomas Lewis, which, on motion, was laid upon the table, and made the order of the day for to-morrow:

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master be, and he is hereby authorized to appoint a Grand Lecturer for the ensuing year, to visit the Subordinate Lodges, and instruct them in the sublime art, and that he devote at least four days in the year to each Subordinate Lodge, and that he receive from the Grand Lodge one hundred dollars for his services, together with one dollar from each and every member of the Subordinate Lodges which he may visit and instruct, according to the intent and meaning of this resolution, to be paid from the funds of each Lodge respectively, which may receive such instruction, or which having received one notification as hereinafter provided for, shall fail to avail themselves of such instruction.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Grand Lecturer to notify the presiding officer of each Subordinate Lodge, at least one week previous to visiting the same, for the purpose of instruction; and it shall be the duty of said presiding officer, on receiving such notification, to convene his Lodge accordingly; and that of the Grand Lecturer to make a report of his proceedings to the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication.

On motion of T. Lewis, it was

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge proceed to-morrow, at 8 o'clock, P. M., to elect its officers for the ensuing year.

The Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer presented their accounts, which, together with the Grand Secretary's Report, were referred to the Committee on the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Accounts.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Your Grand Secretary, having received his appointment from the Most Worshipful Grand Master, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Bro. P. F.

Merrick, and after the principal business of the year had ceased, but little had come before him worthy of being presented to the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

The account of receipts and disbursements of the late Grand Secretary, from the date of his last account, (rendered on the 8th of January, 1833,) up to the period of his lamented death, will require to be examined and adjusted. Such papers and vouchers in relation thereto as have been received by the present Grand Secretary, will be furnished to aid the investigation.

The Grand Secretary has in his possession no data upon which to found an accurate estimate of the receipts and expenditures of the Grand Lodge for the ensuing year. He submits, however, the following, which he believes will not vary far from the truth:

In consequence of a late law of Louisiana, withdrawing all charters granted by the Legislature of that State, for the purpose of raising money by lotteries, the income derived from an amalgamation of the Masonic Hall Lottery, with one of the Louisiana lotteries, ceased on the 31st of December last. It is expected that the Legislature of Louisiana will reconsider, at its present session, the vote of last winter, and probably reverse its decision. In which case we can safely calculate upon receiving for the lottery for the ensuing year, the sum of.....	\$200 00
From Subordinate Lodges.....	450 00
From rents due and becoming due.....	500 00

Total estimated receipts.....	\$1,150 00
One-third of the note, for \$2,000, in the Bank of the State of Mississippi, reported to be due by the late Grand Secretary at the last Annual Communication, was paid on the 13th April last, leaving a balance of \$1,334; one-half of which has been renewed in the Planters' Bank, and is due on the 6th February next.....	667 00
One-half in the Bank of the State of Mississippi, payable on the 13th April.....	667 00
The Grand Architect has a claim, (\$800 00 being for extra work,) of about.....	1,300 00
Insurance, and other incidental expenses.....	200 00

Total expenditures.....	\$2,834 00
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Making a deficit, provided the Grand Architect's claim be received and allowed, of.....	\$1,684 00
And in case a disappointment should arise in relation to the lottery, we must add to the deficit.....	200 00

Making, to be provided for at the present Communication, the sum of.... \$1,884 00

Upon the representation of the Grand Architect, and at the request of the M. W. Grand Master, the Grand Secretary would respectfully urge upon the Grand Lodge the necessity of having the gutters around the Masonic Hall lined with copper, for the preservation of the building.

All of which, together with the Grand Secretary's Account Current, is respectfully submitted,

WM. P. MELLEEN,
Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary's account current showed the total receipts for the year to have been \$675 00. He had paid the Grand Treasurer \$711 18, leaving a balance due the Grand Secretary of \$36 18.

The Grand Treasurer's account showed that he had received and expended during the year \$711 18.

P. L. Mitchell was, on petition, duly elected a member of this Grand Lodge.

The return of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, was received and laid upon the table.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the returns received from Subordinate Lodges, and laid upon the table, be referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of the Grand Secretary, it was

Resolved, That when this Grand Lodge adjourns, it will adjourn until to-morrow, 3 o'clock P. M.

On motion of D. Greenleaf, it was

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Subordinate Lodges composing each Deputy Grand Master's district, by concert and agreement among themselves, and under the direction of the Deputy Grand Master, to convene together at their respective places of holding their Lodges in rotation, on the occasions of the celebration of the anniversaries of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist, and that by a public procession and appropriate oration, the moral purposes and laudable objects of Masonry be explained, discussed and set forth in their true colors, so far as can, consistently with the Landmarks of the Order, be done.

Leave of absence was granted to John Wood, Representative of Quitman Lodge, No. 18, after this evening.

The Grand Secretary offered the following resolutions to amend the Constitution, which are required by the Constitution to lay over to the next Annual Communication for consideration :

Resolved, That the 8th section of the 1st article of the Constitution be amended, by inserting the following between the words "annually" and "which," in the 3d line: "but the Grand Lodge shall have power at each "Grand Annual Communication, to change the day of "convening, to any other day in the months of January and February of the following year."

Resolved, That the 4th section of the 1st article be amended by striking out the words "in the month of January."

The Grand Lodge then adjourned, to meet at 3 o'clock, P. M., to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, January 8, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The following Subordinate Lodges were represented :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—Wm. P. Mellen.

Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2—Andrew Brown.

Washington Lodge, No. 3—P. A. Vandorn and Daniel Greenleaf.

Hiram Lodge, No. 9—Thomas Lewis.

Polar Star Lodge, No. 22—P. W. Farrar and G. C. McWhorter.

Visitor—P. E. Boucher.

The Committee on Unfinished Business made their report, which was received and laid upon the table.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

The Committee to whom was referred Unfinished Business of the last Grand Annual Communication, have performed that duty, and ask leave to report

That there is a proposed amendment to the Constitution, offered at the last Grand Annual Communication, to prevent Subordinate Lodges from initiating, passing to the degree of Fellow-Craft, or raising to the sublime degree of Master Mason, any applicant, unless the same be done by a unanimous vote in favor of the applicant—which is respectfully submitted for the consideration of the Grand Lodge. Your Committee would earnestly suggest the propriety of adopting some such measures in this particular, in order to preserve a uniformity of action and rule, in all the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and make as acceptable as possible to the fraternity every individual who offers himself as a candidate for the mysteries of Masonry.

The committee can find no other business remaining unfinished, or other duties for them to perform.

P. W. FARRAR,
JOHN WOOD,
Committee.

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals reported that no business had come before them.

The Committee on Foreign Communications made the following report, which was received and agreed to:

The Committee on Foreign Communications have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report: That they have examined communications from the Grand Lodges of Ohio, Connecticut, North Carolina, Florida, Virginia, Georgia, Louisiana, Kentucky, Rhode Island, and Providence Plantations, and have found nothing requiring the particular attention of this Grand Lodge. Your Committee, however, take pleasure in saying, so far as the communications have been received, all bear testimony of the flourishing condition of Masonry in the above mentioned States. The Committee would recommend reciprocal civilities with the Grand Lodges from whom the above named communications have been received—all which have been respectfully reported.

P. W. FARRAR,
JAMES M. STEEL.

The report of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges was then received and laid upon the table.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report: That out of the Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, returns have been received from five, viz: Harmony, No. 1; Andrew Jackson, No. 2; Washington, No. 3; Hiram, No. 9, and Quitman, No. 18; which returns have been examined, and are believed to be correct.

No returns have been received from the following Lodges, to-wit: Columbus, No. 5; Rising virtue, No. 7; Benjamin Franklin, No. 11; Lafayette, No. 12; Jefferson, No. 15; Clinton, No. 16; Leake, No. 17; Leaf River, No. 19; Western Star, No. 20, Raymond, No. 21, and Polar Star, No. 22; nor are any of them, except Polar Star, No. 22, represented at this Communication.

Your Committee beg leave further to report, that the following Lodges are in arrears for their dues, at the last as well as the present Annual Communication, viz: Lafayette, No. 12; Leake, No. 17, and Leaf River, No. 19; and recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Lodges aforesaid, which are in arrears to this Grand Lodge for the years 1832 and 1833, be, and they are hereby suspended, until they shall comply with the requisitions in relation to their returns and dues; and that the Grand Secretary be, and is hereby required to notify said Lodges of the passage of this resolution.

By a reference to the proceedings of this Lodge at its last Annual Communication, your Committee find that Jefferson Lodge, No. 15, Rising Virtue, No. 7, and Quitman, No. 18, were suspended for non-payment of their dues, and the Grand Secretary required to notify them of the fact. Quitman Lodge, No.

18. has paid its dues, and made the necessary returns. In relation, however, to the other two first named Lodges, your Committee would offer the following resolution, viz:

WHEREAS, Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 7, and Jefferson Lodge, No. 15, were at the last Annual Grand Communication of this Lodge, suspended for non-payment of dues, and notified of the fact by the Grand Secretary, and having neglected to comply agreeably to such notification; therefore,

Resolved, That the Deputy Grand Masters of the Districts in which they are situated, be authorized to demand a surrender of the charters, jewels and property of said Lodges.

Your Committee would further state, that though the returns from Polar Star Lodge, No. 22, have not been received, yet the dues have been all paid; and that a balance still remains due from Raymond Lodge, No. 20, for the year 1832.

Your Committee also notice a communication from Clinton Lodge, No. 16, suspending one of the members thereof for the term of two years, which your Committee beg leave to lay before the Lodge, together with this report.

WM. P. MELLEN,
THOS. LEWIS.

The resolution offered yesterday by T. Lewis, and made the order for to-day, was called up, and after the rejection of several amendments offered, was adopted.

On motion of P. W. Farrar, it was

Resolved, That Polar Star Lodge, No. 22, have until the first day of February next to make returns to the Grand Lodge for the last two years.

The report of the Committee on Unfinished Business was called up for consideration, and agreed to; and the following resolution, offered by A. W. Allan, at the last Grand Annual Communication, amending the Constitution, was adopted:

No Subordinate Lodge shall initiate, pass to the Degree of Fellow Craft, or raise to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason, any applicant, unless the vote be unanimous in his favor.

The Committee on the Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's Books and Accounts, made the following report:

The Committee appointed to examine the Books of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and to whom has also been referred their accounts as presented, together with the accompanying communication of the Grand Secretary, *pro tem.*, beg leave to report: That the accounts current of the Grand Secretary, *pro tem.*, and the Grand Treasurer, for the past year, have been examined, respectively, and the charges therein made are sustained by the proper vouchers. The Treasurer's books, and those of the Grand Secretary, *pro tem.*, since his appointment, have been correctly kept, and the records are duly and regularly made up. The Book of Accounts of the late Grand Secretary, in consequence of his illness and death, is manifestly deficient in many important items, both of debts and credits; such of the Subordinate Lodges as made returns at the last Grand Annual Communication, have neither been charged with their dues, nor (if paid) credited with the payment; nor has the late Grand Secretary charged himself with the receipt and credited himself with the disbursement of the funds of the Grand Lodge upon his books, as was his custom, and as, doubtless, he would have done, had he lived. From a view of his papers, vouchers and minutes, entered in his own hand-writing, the annexed imperfect statement has been prepared, which, not being made up from data upon which certain reliance can be placed, is recommended to be submitted to a special committee. The adoption of the following resolution is therefore proposed:

Resolved, That the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Grand Secretary,

be a Special Committee to enquire into, investigate and fully settle the account of the late Grand Secretary, P. F. Merrick, and that they make report of their proceedings herein by the next Communication of this Grand Lodge.

In relation to the communication of the Grand Secretary, *pro tem.*, on the subject of meeting the engagements of the Grand Lodge for the ensuing year, your Committee submit the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Grand Master and Grand Secretary be empowered, in behalf of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, in their corporate capacity, to procure upon loan, either by a direct engagement to the lender as drawer of a note, or by securing individuals by mortgage on the Masonic Hall, for the use of their names as drawers of such note, so much money annually as will meet the engagements of the Grand Lodge, not exceeding \$3,000 in any one year.

And in relation to that part of the communication of the Grand Secretary *pro tem.*, respecting the gutters of the Masonic Hall, your Committee offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master and the Grand Secretary, be authorized to contract with some suitable person to line the gutters around the Masonic Hall with copper, or other durable material.

D. GREENLEAF,
THOS. LEWIS,
Committee.

The report was received and agreed to.

P. W. Farrar offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That as the late Grand Secretary has departed this life since our last Communication, in testimony of the high respect we entertain for his character and worth, the members of the Grand Lodge will wear the usual badge of mourning for the space of thirty days.

Resolved, That the above resolution be forwarded to the family of the deceased.

The resolution offered yesterday by D. Greenleaf, was taken up, and, on motion, was adopted.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned, to meet this evening at 7 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, January 8th, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The report of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges was now called up, and the vote being taken on each resolution submitted by the committee, and decided in the affirmative, the report was agreed to.

On motion of T. Lewis it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby instructed to notify Raymond Lodge, No. 21, of the balance of dues remaining unpaid for the year 1832, and of the returns and dues for the year 1833; and that said Lodge have until the first of May next to make returns and pay its dues.

On motion of D. Greenleaf, it was

Resolved, That hereafter the Grand Secretary, in making up his annual accounts, be required to make a transcript or balance sheet from his books

showing on one side the aggregate amount of all that is due, and from whom due, to the Grand Lodge; and showing on the contra side the aggregate amount of all that the Grand Lodge owes, and to whom it is indebted.

The petitions of G. C. McWhorter and Preston W. Farrar, for membership, were received, when the following resolution was offered by D. Greenleaf, and adopted:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge, that section one of article one, and section nine of article four, of the Constitution does not require that a brother, to become a member of this Grand Lodge, must necessarily be a Past Master.

G. C. McWhorter, Preston W. Farrar, Patrick Lynch and Daniel Greenleaf were then duly elected members of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then went into an election of officers for the ensuing year, when the following brethren were declared duly elected:

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. HENRY G. JOHNSON.....	D. D. G. M., 1st District.
P. A. VANDORN.....	D. D. G. M., 2d District.
T. P. FALCONER.....	D. D. G. M., 3d District.
GEO. NEWMAN.....	Grand Senior Warden.
ANDREW BROWN.....	Grand Junior Warden.
HENRY TOOLEY.....	Grand Chaplain.
P. W. FARRAR.....	Grand Orator.
JAMES J. ROWAN.....	Grand Treasurer.
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
P. S. MITCHELL.....	Grand Marshal.
THOMAS LEWIS.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
JAMES M. STEELE.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOSEPH NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to meet to-morrow at 9 o'clock, A. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 9th—9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The report of the Committee appointed to audit the Grand Steward and Tyler's Accounts, was received and agreed to.

On motion of T. Lewis, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed one hundred copies of such parts of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge at the present Communication as he may deem proper, subject to the revision of the M. W. Grand Master.

On motion of P. L. Mitchell, it was

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge proceed to the election of some brother to fill the vacancy in the Building Committee, occasioned by the death of the late Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge then went into the election, and Wm. P. Mellen was declared duly elected to fill said vacancy.

On motion of P. L. Mitchell, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to make, or have made, an index to the Journals of this Lodge, and that he be paid the sum of fifteen dollars out of the treasury, when the same be completed.

The Grand Officers for the ensuing year were duly installed, and the M. W. Grand Lodge was then closed in Due and Ancient Form.

WM. P. MELLEN, Grand Secretary.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1835.

NATCHEZ, January 5, 1835.

PRESENT.

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. GEO. NEWMAN.....	Grand Senior Warden.
JOSEPH NICHOLS.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
P. L. MITCHELL.....	Grand Marshal.
MARK IZOD.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
P. LYNCH.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
J. M. STEELE.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOS. NEWMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Visitors—Rev. Mr. Hamilton, Wm. Bennett, Wm. Vannerson, Anthony Campbell, J. R. Perkins, Wm. McDowell, John Burleigh, Francis Donnelly, B. W. Benson.

The M. W. Grand Lodge was opened in the Sublime Degree.

The following representatives from Subordinate Lodges, presented their credentials, to-wit :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—Wm. P. Mellen, P. L. Mitchell.

Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2—Mark Izod.

Washington Lodge, No. 3—Joseph Nicholls.

Hiram Lodge, No. 9—Geo. Newman.

Pearl Lodge, under dispensation—B. W. Benson.

The Grand Secretary made his annual report, and submitted his account current ; both of which were received and laid upon the table.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge, State of Mississippi :

Since your last Grand Annual Communication, I have issued, by order of the M. W. Grand Master, Dispensations to two Lodges ; one at Jackson, to be called Pearl Lodge, and one at Lexington, to be called Lexington Lodge.

Returns have been received from Clinton Lodge, No. 16, Leake, No. 17, and Western Star, No. 20, since the adjournment of the Grand Lodge, and the respective dues of these Lodges, for the year 1833, have been paid. The returns of Columbus Lodge, No. 5, have been received, but the dues have not been paid. I have received a communication from the Secretary of that Lodge, asking of the Grand Lodge an examination "for the dues of the past and present year," for reasons set forth therein ; to which the Grand Lodge is respectfully referred.

Raymond Lodge, No. 21, has been notified by the Grand Secretary, in obedience to the directions of the Grand Lodge, of the dues remaining unpaid for 1832, and of the returns and dues for 1833, but no dues have been paid, nor have any returns been made.

The Grand Secretary submits with his annual account current, in obedience to another resolution of the Grand Lodge, "a transcript or balance sheet from the books of the Grand Lodge, showing on one side the aggregate amount of all that is due, and from whom due, to the Grand Lodge; and showing upon the contra side the aggregate amount of all that the Grand Lodge owes, and to whom it is indebted."

An index has been made by the Grand Secretary, to the journals of this Grand Lodge, in conformity to a resolution passed at the last Grand Annual Communication.

The two notes of \$667 each, have been renewed from time to time in the several banks, as accomodation could be procured. There is still due on them, \$1072 05. Two hundred and sixty-one dollars and ninety-five cents having been paid, with the several discounts at each renewal.

By the directions of the Building Committee, I have had placed in front of the Masonic Hall, an iron railing; and I have had the gutters around the Hall, by the direction of the Grand Lodge, lined with copper. Since the last Grand Annual Communication, the Building Committee have made a settlement with the Grand Architect in full of all demands, by giving him a note payable in bank on 1st of February, next, for \$1319 45. I hold his obligation for the completion of the Chapter room, and the placing of a lightning-rod upon the building.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WM. P. MELLE, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary's account current showed that the receipts for the year were \$4529 89. Paid Grand Treasurer, \$4604 42. Balance due Grand Secretary, \$74 53.

The Grand Treasurer's account current showed that he had received and expended \$4604 42.

The M.: W.: Grand Master then appointed the following Standing Committees.

On the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Accounts—Jos. Nicolls and Mark Izod.

To audit the Grand Steward and Tyler's account—Wm. P. Mellen and Robert Stewart.

Unfinished Business—P. L. Mitchell and C. W. Benson.

Complaints and Appeals—Geo. Newman and J. M. Steele.

Foreign Communications—Jos. Nicholls and R. J. Fitz.

Subordinate Lodges—Robert Stewart and J. J. Rowan.

The Grand Treasurer's account and the Grand Secretary's report and account were then referred to the Committee on the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Accounts.

An application for dispensation for several brethren, residents of the city of New Orleans, in the State of Louisiana, was presented by the M.: W.: Grand Master, and on motion of the Grand Secretary, was referred to the Committee on Foreign Communications.

On motion of the R.: W.: Senior Warden,

Resolved, That when this Grand Lodge adjourns, it will adjourn to meet at 7 o'clock, P. M., to-morrow.

On motion, the Grand Lodge then adjourned.

TUESDAY, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals made the following report, which was received and agreed to :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals, beg leave to report, that they have had nothing before them requiring their action.

G. NEWMAN,
JAMES M. STEELE.

The Committee on Unfinished Business made the following report, which, on motion, was received and agreed to :

The Committee to whom was referred the unfinished business of the last Annual Communication, have performed that duty, and ask leave to report, That there is a proposed amendment to the Constitution offered at the last Annual Communication, to alter the time of the session of the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee would most respectfully recommend the passage of the following resolutions, which were offered at the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, viz :

Resolved, That the 8th section of the 1st article of the Constitution be amended by inserting the following between the words "annually" and "which" in the third line—"but the Grand Lodge shall have power at each Grand Annual Communication, to change the day of convening to any other day in the months of January and February of the following year."

Resolved, That the 4th section of the 1st article be amended by striking out the words "in the month of January."

Then the fourth section will read thus :

"The officers of the Grand Lodge shall be elected at the Grand Communication annually, by ballot, and duly installed."

The eighth section will read thus :

"The Grand Lodge shall meet at the city of Natchez, on the 1st Monday of January, annually; but the Grand Lodge shall have power at each Grand Annual Communication, to change the day of convening to any other day in the months of January and February of the following year; which shall be the Grand Annual Communication, when the returns shall be received and examined, and committees appointed to examine the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer, Secretary, and Steward; to examine visiting brethren; and make reports on complaints and appeals; and give their opinion on all questions and matters submitted to the Grand Lodge for investigation."

The Committee can find no other business remaining unfinished, or other duties for them to perform.

P. L. MITCHELL,
B. W. BENSON,
Committee.

The Committee on Foreign Communications made report, which was received and laid on the table.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made report, which was received and laid upon the table.

The Committee on the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Accounts, made the following report, which was received and agreed to :

The undersigned Committee of Accounts, appointed by the Grand Wor. Master of the Grand Lodge to examine and report on the accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary of said Lodge, beg leave to state that the items in said accounts correspond with the vouchers, and are correct.

Your Committee would suggest the propriety of disposing of many accounts now on the books unsettled against members demitted, dead, etc., in the most approved manner.

MARK IZOD,
JOSEPH NICHOLS.

The R. W. District Deputy Grand Master of the 2d District, and representative of Washington Lodge, No. 3, P. A. Vandorn, appeared and took his seat.

A communication from J. C. Bond on the subject of decorations for the hall, and claiming an allowance for wood, was received and referred to a select committee composed of Bros. Mitchell and Mellen.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. Stewart, was laid upon the table, and made the order of the day for to-morrow:

Resolved, That the decision of the Grand Lodge made at its last Annual Communication, on the construction of the 1st section of article 1, and the 9th section of article 4, of the Constitution, is not, in the opinion of the Grand Lodge, the true construction, and that the same be reversed.

The petitions of Bros. R. J. Fitz, of Clinton Lodge, No. 16; Mark Izod, James R. Perkins, of Andrew Jackson, No. 2; John Brazleman, of Harmony No. 1, and Joseph Nicolls, of Washington, No. 3, all Past Masters, were received, and upon ballots being severally taken thereon, they were found clear.

On motion of Bro. Benson,

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge go into the election of officers for the ensuing year, at 7 o'clock, P. M., to-morrow.

The R. W. Deputy Grand Master, 3d District, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to revise the By-Laws of this Grand Lodge, and if any amendments be necessary, in their opinion, that they report the same at the next Grand Annual Communication.

On motion of Brother Fitz, the resolution was amended by inserting the words "Constitution and" before "By-Laws."

On motion of Bro. Nicolls, the resolution was again amended by inserting after "By-Laws," the words "for the government of."

The question on the adoption of the resolution, as amended, was carried.

The Grand Lodge then appointed the M. W. Grand Master, the R. W. Grand Secretary, and Bro. R. J. Fitz, on the committee named in the said resolution.

Bro. Fitz presented the By-Laws of Clinton Lodge, No. 16, as amended, for the approval of the Grand Lodge, and on his motion they were referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The Lodge of Master Masons was then dispensed with, and a Lodge of Past Masters opened.

Bro. Hiram McFarren, the Master elect of Hiram Lodge, No. 9, was then introduced, and the degree of Past Master conferred upon him.

The Lodge of Past Masters was then closed, and the Grand Lodge resumed its labor in the Sublime Degree.

On motion,

Resolved, That when this Grand Lodge adjourns, it will adjourn to meet at 10 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, January 7, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Representatives from the following Subordinate Lodges:

Harmony, No. 1—R. Stewart, W. P. Mellen, and P. L. Mitchell.

Andrew Jackson, No 2—Mark Izod.

Washington, No. 3—P. A. Vandorn and Jos. Nicolls.

Hiram, No. 9—H. McFarren and Geo. Newman.

Clinton, No. 16—Robert J. Fitz.

Member—Joseph Dunbar.

Visitors—John Meridith. John Burleigh, W. B. Woolley and J. M. Winn.

U. J. Whitehead, representative from Leake Lodge, No. 17, and Josiah Parker, representative from Raymond Lodge, No. 21, appeared, produced their credentials, and took their seats.

The Special Committee on the communication of J. C. Bond, having, on motion of Bro. Mitchell, their chairman, obtained leave, made an adverse report to the claim set forth therein; which report was received and agreed to.

On motion of Brother Stewart, the resolution offered by him yesterday, and made the order for to-day, was called up for consideration and after much discussion, it was adopted by yeas and nays as follows: Yeas, 36; nays, none; and so the decision of the last Grand Lodge in favor of admitting Master Masons to membership, was reversed by unanimous vote.

On motion of Bro. Stewart,

Resolved, That all the brethren elected members of this Grand Lodge at its last Grand Annual Communication, who are only Master Masons, were made members contrary to the true meaning and construction of both the strict letter and spirit of the Constitution; and that their names be stricken from the list of members of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to notify all such of the passage of this resolution, and return the fee for their membership.

On motion of the Grand Secretary, the report on Subordinate Lodges was then taken up, and recommitted to said committee.

On motion of Bro. Stewart, the Grand Secretary was added to said committee.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Communications was called up, and on motion of the Grand Secretary, the committee had leave to amend their report, which having been done, by striking out "its Grand Secretary," and inserting in place thereof, "its Grand Master," the report was then agreed to, on motion of Bro. Nicolls.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN COMMUNICATIONS.

The Committee on Foreign Communications have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report:

That they have examined communications from the Grand Lodges of the States of Alabama, Louisiana, Vermont, Kentucky, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, Tennessee, Indiana and Florida; and find nothing requiring the particular attention of this Grand Lodge, except some articles of the "General Regulations of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana," to which your Committee would call the attention of this Grand Lodge, more particularly by a reference to the printed copy of said regulations now in the possession of your Committee.

Your Committee are clearly of the opinion that the articles of the regulations above referred to, are at variance with the ancient landmarks of Masonry, and contrary to the liberal spirit and principles of our order, and would recommend that this Grand Lodge, through its Grand Master, communicate with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana upon this subject.

Your Committee have also received a petition from a number of brethren in the city of New Orleans, praying for a dispensation or charter from this Grand Lodge.

Your Committee are opinion, that it would not be proper for this Grand Lodge to grant the prayer of the petition, inasmuch as there is now a Grand Lodge in the State of Louisiana.

Your Committee take pleasure in saying, that the returns from all the States which have made communications to this Grand Lodge at its present session, testify to the flourishing condition of Masonry within their several Jurisdictions. The Committee would recommend reciprocal civilities with Grand Lodges from whom this Grand Lodge has received communications. All of which your Committee respectfully beg leave to report,

R. J. FITZ,
JOSEPH NICOLIS,
Committee.

On motion of the R. W. Grand Senior Warden, it was

Resolved, That when this Grand Lodge adjourns, it will adjourn to meet at 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 3 o'clock this evening.

WEDNESDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Present as before, with the addition of Bishop Otey, of Tennessee; Martin W. Ewing, and John Burleigh.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report :

That out of the Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, returns have been received from Harmony, No. 1, Andrew Jackson, No. 2, Washington, No. 3, Hiram, No. 9, Clinton, No. 16, Leake, No. 17, Raymond, No. 21, Pearl, under dispensation, and Lexington, under dispensation. No returns have been received from Columbus, No. 5, Benj. Franklin, No. 11, Lafayette, No. 12, Quitman, No. 18, Leaf River, No. 19, Western Star, No. 20, and Polar Star, No. 22. That Benjamin Franklin, No. 11, has not made returns for the last two years, nor have any dues been paid.

Your Committee beg leave also to report, that Lafayette No. 12, and Leaf River, No. 19, are in arrears for the last three years, and have made no returns, and were suspended at the last Annual Grand Communication.

At the last Grand Annual Communication it was resolved that the Deputy Grand Masters of the Districts in which are Rising Virtue, No. 7, and Jefferson, No. 15, be required to demand a surrender of the charters, jewels, and property of these Lodges. No report has been received of their action, therefore, your Committee would beg leave to report for the adoption of the Grand Lodge, the following preamble and resolutions :

WHEREAS, A communication has been received from Columbus Lodge, asking for a remission of its dues for the years, 1833 and 1834, in consequence of that Lodge being indebted in the amount of \$800 for a Masonic Hall, be it

Resolved, That the same be remitted upon the Lodge making its regular returns, in compliance with the requisitions of the Constitution.

Resolved, That Quitman, No. 18, Western Star, No. 20, and Polar Star, No. 22, have until the first day May next, to make their annual returns, and pay their dues.

Resolved, That whereas, Lafayette Lodge, No. 12, and Leaf River Lodge, No. 19, were suspended at the last Annual Communication until they had made

their returns, and paid their dues; and having failed to do either, that the Deputy Grand Masters within whose Districts these Lodges are, be required to demand the surrender of the charter, jewels, debts, and property of said Lodges, agreeably to the Constitution of this Grand Lodge; and,

WHEREAS, Benjamin Franklin Lodge, No. 11, has failed to make returns, and pay its dues for the two years past; be it

Resolved, That the said Lodge be suspended until it shall comply, with these requisitions of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the directions given to the District Deputy Grand Masters, within whose districts are Rising Virtue Lodge, No. 7, and Jefferson Lodge, No. 15, be continued, and that they be earnestly requested to make report at the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

Your Committee have examined the proceedings of Pearl Lodge, and Lexington, under dispensation, and believe them to be within the ancient landmarks of the Order, and recommend that charters be issued to them by the Grand Secretary forthwith.

The By-Laws of Clinton Lodge, No. 16, as amended, have been examined by your Committee, and are approved by them, with the exception of section 7, of article 3, which is objected to by one of your Committee, but most heartily concurred in by another. Leake Lodge, No. 17, has not paid its dues for the present year, and asks indulgence for a few weeks.

Your Committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That Leake Lodge, No. 17, have until the 1st day of February to pay its dues for the year 1834.

ROBERT STEWART,
WM. P. MELLEN.

The report was received, and the resolutions recommended were severally adopted.

On motion of Bro. Fitz,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary issue a charter to Pearl Lodge forthwith.

H. McFarren of Hiram Lodge, No. 9, and U. J. Whitehead, of Leake, No. 17, were, on petition, elected members of this Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Whitehead,

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge approve of the present By-Laws of Clinton Lodge, No. 16, as reported to this Grand Lodge, at its present communication.

On motion of Bro. Fitz,

Resolved, That the Grand Master communicate with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, according to the recommendation of the Committee on Foreign Communications.

On motion of the R. W. Senior Grand Warden, the Grand Lodge then adjourned to meet at 7 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment, and adjourned without transacting any business, until the next day at 10 o'clock, A. M.

THURSDAY, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Resolved, That the By-Laws of Leake Lodge, No. 17, as reported to this Grand Lodge, be and they are hereby approved.

Bro. Robert L. Scott, of Clinton Lodge, No. 16, was duly elected a member of the Grand Lodge, on petition.

The Committee appointed to audit the Grand Steward and Tyler's account reported that they had found the same correct.

On motion, the Grand Lodge then went into the election of officers for the ensuing year. The result was as follows, to-wit :

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. ROBERT J. FITZ.....	D. D. G. M., 1st District.
JOS. NICOLLS.....	D. D. G. M., 2d District.
THOMAS P. FALCONER.....	D. D. G. M., 3d District.
ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Senior Warden.
JOSEPH DUNBAR.....	Grand Junior Warden.
HENRY TOOLEY.....	Grand Chaplain.
ROBERT L. SCOTT.....	Grand Orator.
MARK IZOD.....	Grand Treasurer,
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
P. L. MITCHELL.....	Grand Marshal.
U. J. WHITEHEAD.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
HIRAM MCFARREN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOHN BRAZLEMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Grand Master then appointed,

ANDREW BROWN.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
J. R. PERKINS.....	Grand Junior Deacon.

The Grand Officers elect were then installed.

On motion of Bro. Whitehead, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed two hundred copies of such parts of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, as he may deem proper, subject to the revision of the M. W. Grand Master, and that he transmit three copies to each Subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary notify the absent officers elected at this Communication, of their election.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form.

WM. P. MELLEN, Grand Secretary.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1836.

NATCHEZ, January 4, 1836.

PRESENT :

R. W. R. J. FITZ.....	{ First District Deputy Grand Master.
R. STEWART.....	Grand Senior Warden.
W. P. COLEMAN.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
W. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
ROBT. L. SCOTT.....	{ Grand Orator and Grand Sen. Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JOHN WILSON.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JOHN BRAZELMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Member—Samuel Cotton.

Visitors—Winston Banks, James Thistle, Thomas Hannay, James Hicks, Isaac C. Copeland, E. D. Learned.

The following named representatives appeared, produced their credentials, and took their seats :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—Wm. P. Mellen.
Washington, No. 3—John Wilson.
Hiram, No. 9—Geo. L. C. Davis, Geo. Newman.
Clinton, No. 16—Robert L. Scott.
Pearl, No. 23—W. P. Coleman.
Vicksburg, U. D.—John M. Henderson.
Gallatin, U. D.—E. D. Learned.

No representatives appeared from the following named Lodges : Andrew Jackson, No. 2, Columbus, No. 5, Leake, No. 17, Quitman, No. 18, Raymond, No. 21, Polar Star, No. 22, Lexington, No. 24, Eastern Star, U. D.

The following Standing Committees were appointed by the chair, to-wit :

On Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Accounts—George Newman and W. P. Coleman.

To Audit Grand Steward and Tyler's Account—John Wilson and Robert L. Scott.

On Unfinished Business—G. L. C. Davis and Samuel Cotton.

On Complaints and Appeals—R. L. Scott and George Newman.

On Foreign Communications—Robt. Stewart and Wm. P. Mellen.

On Subordinate Lodges—W. P. Coleman and Robert Stewart.

Bro. John Maxwell, a Past Master, and member of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, was duly elected a member of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report, which was received and agreed to:

Your Committee have examined the proceedings of Vicksburg Lodge, under dispensation, and believe them to be within the ancient landmarks of the order, and recommend a charter be issued to them by the Grand Secretary forthwith.

ROBERT STEWART,
W. P. COLEMAN.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned to meet at three o'clock, P. M., tomorrow.

THURSDAY, THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment. Present same as yesterday. Bro. U. J. Whitehead, from Leake Lodge, No. 17, appeared, produced his credentials, and took his seat.

The Grand Secretary made his Annual Report, and presented his account current, which was, on motion, received:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

Since your last Grand Annual Communication, dispensations have been granted for the creation of a Lodge at Gallatin, one at Monticello, called Eastern Star Lodge, and another at Vicksburg, called Vicksburg Lodge.

Returns have been received from Leake Lodge, No. 17, and all dues have been paid since your last session.

The lower story of the Masonic Hall is now under rent, for six hundred dollars per annum, to good tenants. The second story has been rented, to be used when not required for Masonic purposes, but at what rent is not known to the undersigned, as the agreement, if any, has been made with the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge owes two notes—one of \$445, due in March next, and one of \$1660, due in September of the present year. The undersigned know of no other claims against the Grand Lodge. The note in March can be paid at maturity, and the other note may be somewhat reduced upon renewal.

No reports have been received from the several District Deputy Grand Masters during the past year.

All of which is respectfully submitted, together with the Grand Secretary's account current.

WM. P. MELLEN, Grand Secretary.

The account of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer showed the receipts of the year to have been \$7402 37; expenditures, \$7374 66; balance on hand, \$25 71.

On motion of Bro. Stewart, the Grand Secretary was added to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The Committee on Foreign Communications made the following report:

The Committee on Foreign Communications have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report, that they have examined communications from the Grand Lodges of the States of New York, Kentucky, Virginia, Ohio, Connecticut, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and New Hampshire; and your Committee take pleasure in saying, that the returns from all the States which have made Communications to this Grand Lodge, at its present session, testify to the flourishing condition of Masonry within their several Jurisdictions. The

Committee would recommend reciprocal civilities with the Grand Lodges from whom this Grand Lodge have received communications. All of which your Committee respectfully beg leave to report.

ROBERT STEWART,
WM. P. MELLEEN,
Committee.

On motion of Bro. Scott, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. W. P. Coleman, a Past Master, and a member of Pearl Lodge, No. 23, was duly elected a member of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Unfinished Business made the following report, which, on motion of Bro. Stewart, was received and agreed to :

The Committee appointed on the Unfinished Business, beg leave to report, that on an examination of the minutes of the proceedings of the last session of the Grand Lodge, they are unable to find any business requiring the attention of the Lodge at its present meeting.

G. L. C. DAVIS, Committee.

The Grand Lodge, on motion, adjourned till seven o'clock P. M.

SEVEN O'CLOCK, P. M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Bro. Mathew Clarke, from Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, appeared, produced his credentials, and took his seat.

The Committee on the Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's accounts reported that they had found the same correct.

The Committee on on Subordinate Lodges made the following report, which, on motion of Bro. Coleman, was received and agreed to :

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report, that out of the Lodges within the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, returns have been received from Harmony Lodge, No. 1, Andrew Jackson, No. 2, Washington, No. 3, Hiram, No. 9, Clinton, No. 16, Leake, No. 17, Pearl, No. 23, Gallatin, U. D., Vicksburg, U. D. From the following Lodges no returns have been received : Columbus, No. 5, Benjamin Franklin, No. 11, Quitman, No. 18, Western Star, No. 20, Raymond, No. 21, Polar Star, No. 22, and Eastern Star, U. D.

Of the Lodges which have made no returns for the past year, Quitman, No. 18, and Polar Star, No. 22, have made no returns for the last two years ; and Benjamin Franklin, No. 11, for three years ; nor have any dues been paid within that period.

Your Committee would, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

Resolved, That Eastern Star Lodge, U. D., have until the first of April to make returns and pay their dues, upon the receipt of which the Grand Secretary is hereby authorized and required to issue a charter to said Lodge.

Resolved, That Columbus, No. 5, Western Star, No. 20, Raymond, No. 21, and Lexington, No. 24, have until the first day of May next, to make returns and pay their dues.

Resolved, That Quitman, No. 18, and Polar Star, No. 22, be and they are hereby suspended from work until they shall make their returns and pay their dues, in compliance with the requisitions of the Constitution.

Resolved, That the charter of Benjamin Franklin, No. 11, which Lodge was suspended by the last Grand Lodge, be withdrawn, and that the surviving members be recommended to form a new Lodge.

As a charter has already been ordered to be issued to Vicksburg Lodge, U. D., any action on the part of your Committee, is precluded in relation thereto.

Your Committee have examined the By-Laws and proceedings of Gallatin Lodge, U. D., and approve of the same, and recommend that a charter be issued forthwith to said Lodge.

Resolved, That the District Deputy Grand Masters, in whose districts were, Rising Virtue, No. 7, Lafayette, No. 12, Jefferson, No. 15, and Leaf River, No. 19, be earnestly requested to comply with the requisitions of the last Grand Lodge, to make demand of the jewels, debts, furniture, and all other property of said Lodges, and to make returns to this Grand Lodge, at its next Grand Annual Communication of their proceedings.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. P. MELLEN,
ROBERT STEWART,
W. P. COLEMAN.

On motion of Bro. Coleman,

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge go into an election of officers for the ensuing year, on to-morrow at ten o'clock, A. M.

WEDNESDAY, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Bro. Ira E. Mitchell, from Lexington Lodge, No. 24, appeared, produced his credentials, and took his seat.

Bro. Patrich Lynch, a Past Master, and member of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, was, on petition, duly elected a member of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals reported that no business had come before them.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report:

Your Committee have examined the returns and proceedings of the officers and members of Lexington Lodge, No. 24, and beg leave to report, that the returns and accounts of the same are correct.

W. P. COLEMAN,
ROBERT STEWART,
WM. P. MELLEN.

On motion of Bro. Davis, said report was received and agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Stewart,

Resolved, That a Committee of two be appointed to confer with Committees of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, and the Natchez Royal Arch Chapter, to take into consideration the propriety of furnishing this Lodge room with suitable curtains, carpet and other furniture.

On motion of Bro. Stewart,

Resolved, That Bro. Edwin H. Whitfield be appointed Grand Lecturer of this Grand Lodge for the ensuing year, 1836.

The Grand Secretary offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer shall receive for his compensation, from each Subordinate Lodge, one dollar for each and every member, in full for his fees.

Resolved, That the said Lecturer shall visit each Lodge in the State, at least once during the year, and devote four days to each in the discharge of his duties.

Resolved, That he shall give at least one week's notice to each Lodge, of the time when it will be convenient for him to attend said Lodge; and it shall be the duty of the Master, or presiding officer of each Lodge, to notify the members of his Lodge to meet the said Lecturer at such time, at their Lodge room.

On motion of Bro. Coleman, the words "one dollar," were stricken out, and "two dollars" inserted in place thereof.

The question being upon the adoption of the resolutions, as amended, was decided in the affirmative.

On motion of Bro. Scott,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary inform Bro. Edwin A. Whitfield of his appointment by this Grand Lodge, as Grand Lecturer, as soon as the Grand Lodge adjourns; and also furnish him with a copy of the above resolutions.

The Grand Lodge was then called to refreshment for half an hour.

HALF-PAST TWELVE O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand Lodge recommenced its labors.

The committee appointed at the last session of the Grand Lodge to revise the Constitution, made the following report:

The committee appointed at the last session of the Grand Lodge, to report a new Constitution, beg leave to report, that they have had the subject under consideration, and will suggest the propriety of amending the fifth section of the first article of the Constitution, by dividing the State into five Masonic districts, instead of three, to-wit:

District No. 1, shall embrace Wilkinson, Adams, Jefferson, Claiborne, Warren, Washington, and such other counties as may hereafter be created, lying on the Mississippi river.

District No. 2, shall consist of Pike, Franklin, Copiah, Hinds, Lawrence and Madison.

District No. 3, shall consist of Hancock, Jackson, Covington, Perry, Simpson, Jones, Marion, Greene, Wayne and Rankin.

District No. 4, shall consist of Yazoo, Holmes, Carroll, Tallahatchie, Yalobusha, and all north on the western side of Yazoo river.

District No. 5, shall consist of Monroe, Lowndes, Noxubee, Smith, Clarke, Jasper, Winston, Attala, Leake, Scott, Oktibbeha, Kemper, and all others east of Yazoo river.

Your Committee ask for further time to make a full report.

WM. P. MELLE,.
R. J. FITZ.

On motion of Bro. Whitehead, the report was received and agreed to.

The chair appointed Bros. Brown and Clarke on the joint committee to furnish the Lodge room with suitable furniture.

On motion of Bro. Stewart,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Constitution have until the next Grand Annual Communication to report in full.

On motion of Bro. Stewart,

Resolved, That the joint committee upon the Masonic Hall, have the additional power to make such repairs upon the Hall as they may think proper; and draw upon the Treasurer of the Grand Lodge for its proportion of the sum expended.

The Grand Lodge then went into the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows :

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. ROBERT STEWART.....	D. D. G. M., 1st District.
R. J. FITZ.....	D. D. G. M., 2d District.
THOS. S. STERLING.....	D. D. G. M., 3d District.
U. J. WHITEHEAD.....	D. D. G. M., 4th District.
CHAS. H. ABERT.....	D. D. G. M., 5th District.
W. P. COLEMAN.....	Grand Senior Warden.
SAMUEL COTTON.....	Grand Junior Warden.
H. TOOLEY.....	Grand Chaplain.
ROBT. L. SCOTT.....	Grand Orator.
MARK IZOD.....	Grand Treasurer.
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
P. L. MITCHELL.....	Grand Marshal.
H. MCFERRIN.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
P. LYNCH.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOHN BRAZELMAN.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The First District Deputy Grand Master elect, appointed Bro. Andrew Brown Grand Senior Deacon; and Bro. J. J. Rowan, Grand Junior Deacon.

The Committee to audit the account of the Grand Steward and Tyler reported that they had found the same correct.

On motion of Bro. Scott,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed — copies of such parts of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge as he may deem proper, subject to the revision of the M. W. Grand Master; and that he transmit as soon as convenient, three copies to each Subordinate Lodge, under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

On motion of same, the blank was filled with "200."

On motion of Bro. Scott,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary notify the absent officers, elected at this Communication, of their election.

The Grand Officers elect were then installed in due form by the First Disirict Grand Master.

The M. M. Lodge was dispensed with, and a P. M. Lodge opened, whereupon the degree of Past Master was conferred upon Bro. Ira E. Mitchell, Master elect of Lexington Lodge, No. 24. The P. M. Lodge was then closed and labor was resumed in the M. M. Lodge; and after some time spent therein, the Grand Lodge was closed in due and Ancient Form.

WM. P. MELLEN, Grand Secretary.

NINETEENTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1837.

NATCHEZ, January 2d, 1837.

PRESENT:

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. ROBERT STEWART.....	1st D. Dep. Grand Master.
SAMUEL COTTON.....	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
G. L. C. DAVIS.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
P. HOFF.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
J. M. HUBBARD.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
J. R. PERKINS.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Lodge was opened in the Third Degree of Masonry.

The following representatives of Subordinate Lodges, appeared, produced their credentials, and took their seats:

Harmony, No. 1—Robert Stewart, P. L. Mitchell.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—Samuel Cotton, J. R. Wells.

Hiram, No. 9—G. L. C. Davis.

Leake, No. 17—Haskell Barrett.

Raymond, No. 21—Hugh C. Stewart.

Pearl, No. 23—Philip Hoff.

Gallatin, No. 25—S. H. Johnson, John D. Taylor and Wm. Graves.

Eastern Star, No. 27—C. H. Fox.

Canton, U. D.—Thomas J. Catching.

Brandon, U. D.—W. B. Word.

Fitz Lodge, U. D.—Guilford Griffin.

The following Standing Committees were appointed by the Grand Master:

On Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Accounts—Bros. Cotton and Fox.

To audit the Grand Steward and Tyler's Accounts—Bros. Mitchell and Wells.

On Unfinished Business—Bros. Davis and Hoff.

On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. Johnson and Griffin.

On Foreign Communications—Bros. Catching, Word and Taylor.

On Subordinate Lodges—Bros. H. C. Stewart, Graves and Barrett.

The Grand Secretary made his annual report, which was received, and referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges:

REPORT.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The undersigned respectfully submits his annual report of transactions touching the business and welfare of your Grand Lodge, since your last Grand Annual Communication.

Agreeably to the resolutions appointing a Grand Lecturer and making it the duty of the Grand Secretary to notify Bro. Edwin H. Whitfield of his election to that office, the undersigned addressed him a note, enclosing the resolution, directed to Spring Hill, Hinds county, Mississippi, but the receipt of which remains unacknowledged, nor has any information been received of his having accepted the appointment or entered upon the duties of his office.

During the past year, dispensations have been granted, for the establishment of Lodges at the towns of Canton, Brandon, Madisonville, and Grenada.

Of the Lodges which were in arrears last year, and unrepresented at your last Grand Annual Communication, returns have been received from Raymond, No. 21, and Eastern Star, U. D., and their respective dues have been paid, and a charter, in accordance with a resolution of the Grand Lodge, has been issued to the latter. Returns have also been received from Quitman Lodge, No. 18, for the years 1835 and 1836, and said Lodge has overpaid its dues, (say \$9) for these two years; but no returns nor dues have been received from Quitman Lodge for the year 1834. On this subject the Grand Lodge is referred to the explanatory letter from the Secretary of said Lodge.

The Grand Secretary is happy in having in his power to state that the finances of the Grand Lodge are now in a flourishing condition. The note for \$445, due in March last, was paid at maturity. The Lodge owes now but one other note of \$1650, a large part of which may be paid upon the next renewal, and the balance finally liquidated upon the call of the bank by which it was loaned; provided there shall be no extraordinary appropriations in the meantime.

The working apartment of the Grand Lodge has, since your last Communication, been repaired and supplied with carpet and curtains; the expense for which will be borne by the Natchez Royal Arch Chapter, Harmony and Andrew Jackson Lodges, each one-fourth, and the other fourth by the Grand Lodge. A special report, it is presumed, may be expected during your present session, from the Committee appointed last year to superintend the decoration of the Hall on the part of the Grand Lodge, and to make such other repairs as they might deem expedient.

To meet this expense, and all other demands upon the Treasury, there will be the present balance in the Treasury, the annual dues of Lodges and members, and the rents of the rooms in the lower story of the Hall. These rooms are now in the possession of good tenants, at the rate of \$900 per annum.

WM. P. MELLEN, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's accounts show that the receipts of the year had been \$1225. Expenditures, \$885 70. Balance on hand, \$365 01. Balance from preceding year, \$25 71.

On motion of Bro. Stewart, all the proceedings, reports and returns of Subordinate Lodges, and the credentials of representatives, were referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Guilford Griffin, of Fitz Lodge, Haskell Barrett, of Lexington Lodge, S. H. Johnson, of Gallatin Lodge, and John R. Wells, of Andrew Jackson Lodge, were, upon petition, duly elected members of the Grand Lodge.

On motion, the Grand Lodge then adjourned till three o'clock, P. M., to-morrow.

TUESDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Jacob F. Foute, the representative from Clinton Lodge, No. 16, E. W. Morris, from Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, and T. D. Jeffries and Humphrey M. Posey, representatives from Washington Lodge, No. 3, appeared, produced their credentials and took their seats.

The Committee on the Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's accounts reported that they had found them correct.

The Committees on Unfinished Business and Complaints and Appeals each reported that no business had come before them requiring the action of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Foreign Communications made the following report, which, on motion of their chairman, was received and agreed to:

The Committee on Foreign Communications beg leave to report: That it has given them much pleasure, in the discharge of their duty, to peruse communications from the Grand Lodges of the States of Connecticut, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Kentucky, Virginia, Georgia, Tennessee and the Territory of Florida, made to the Grand Lodge of this State; and from the examination which your Committee have given the subject, they are gratified to notice the reviving, growing and prosperous condition of Masonry, within the jurisdictions of the above named Grand Lodges.

Your Committee beg leave to recommend the extension of the same courtesy to those Grand Lodges, who have communicated their proceedings to this Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. J. CATCHING,
W. B. WORD,
JOHN D. TAYLOR.

Hugh C. Stewart, of Raymond Lodge, and Jacob F. Foute, of Clinton Lodge, were duly elected members of this Grand Lodge.

Bro. Jacob F. Foute presented the petition of G. D. Patterson, A. Rowland, Tomas H. Watts, John W. Hornsby, Jesse Burkhalter, Thomas H. Hopkins, Thomas Bingham, and Gilbert D. Gere, as members of Leaf River Lodge, No. 19, for the restoration of their charter, and with privilege to remove said Lodge from Monroe to Williamsburg, and offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the resolution of this Grand Lodge, suspending the privileges and powers of Leaf River Lodge, No. 19, be rescinded, and that Leaf River Lodge, No. 19, be restored to all its rights and powers.

The petition and resolution were referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Secretary offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That, upon proper application made by Master Masons in the Republic of Texas, the Grand Master has the power to grant Dispensations, and the Grand Lodge will grant charters, for the establishment of Lodges in that Republic, until a Grand Lodge shall be there established and recognized.

The Grand Lodge then, on motion, adjourned till 10 o'clock, A. M., tomorrow.

WEDNESDAY, 10 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

Lodges represented same as yesterday, with the exception of Canton Lodge, U. D.

Bro. G. Griffin, presented a paper from under the signature of Bro. T. J. Catching, appointing him his proxy to represent Canton Lodge, U. D., Bro. Catching having left on his return home, which was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made a report, which was received and agreed to :

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report : That out of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, returns have been received from Harmony Lodge, No. 1, Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, Washington, No. 3, Hiram, No. 9, Clinton, No. 16, Leake, No. 17, Quitman, No. 18, Pearl, No. 23, Lexington, No. 24, Gallatin, No. 25, Vicksburg, No. 26, Eastern Star, No. 27, Canton, U. D., Brandon, U. D., and Fitz, U. D., also a petition from the surviving members of Leaf River Lodge, No. 19, to be reinstated.

No returns have been received from Columbus, No. 5, Raymond, No. 21, Polar Star, No. 22, and Grenada, U. D. Of these, Columbus Lodge, No. 5, is in arrears for two years, and Polar Star, No. 23, for three years. It also appears from the books of the Grand Secretary, that Quitman, No. 18, is yet in arrears for the year 1834, of which said Lodge appears to be ignorant, as will be seen from the last annual report of said Lodge.

The charter, jewels and other property of Franklin Lodge, No. 10, and Western Star, No. 20, have been surrendered to the Grand Lodge.

The accounts of the labor of Fitz Lodge, U. D., Canton, U. D., and Brandon, U. D., have been received, and found to be within the Ancient Land Marks of Ancient Freemasonry.

Your Committee would, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

1. *Resolved*, That the charter of Polar Star Lodge, No. 22, be withdrawn from said Lodge.

2. *Resolved*, That the petition of the surviving members of Leaf River Lodge, No. 19, be not complied with; but if those members, or a competent number of them shall make application, in due form, for a Dispensation for a new Lodge at Williamsburg, before the first day of July next, and pay thirty dollars as the dues of said Leaf River Lodge, No. 19, a Dispensation shall be issued, and the said new Lodge shall be entitled to the jewels, furniture, debts, and other property of said Leaf River Lodge.

3. *Resolved*, That Columbus Lodge, No. 5, be suspended from labor until they shall have paid their dues, and made their returns for the years 1835 and '36, according to, and in compliance with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

4. *Resolved*, That Grenada Lodge, U. D., have until the first day of June to make returns and pay their dues; and when the same shall be done, in compliance with the Constitution, the Grand Secretary be and is hereby instructed to issue a charter to said Lodge.

5. *Resolved*, That the name of Brandon Lodge, be changed to that of Coleman Lodge.

6. *Resolved*, That charters be issued, forthwith, to Canton, Coleman and Fitz Lodges, U. D.

7. *Resolved*, That Quitman Lodge have until the first day of June next, to make their annual returns and pay their dues to the Grand Lodge for the year 1834; and, also, as said Lodge was under suspension from labor during the past year without their knowledge, it is further resolved, that all their acts be recognized as legal by this Grand Lodge, which they were entitled to do as a Lodge under good standing.

8. *Resolved*, That the amendments adopted in the By-Laws of Clinton Lodge, No. 16, and Raymond, No. 21, be recognized by this Grand Lodge.

9. *Resolved*, That the D. D. Grand Masters in whose districts are Rising Vir-

tue Lodge, No. 7, Benj. Franklin, No. 11, Lafayette, No. 12, Jefferson, No. 15, Leaf River, No. 19, and Polar Star, No. 22, be earnestly requested to comply with the requisitions of the Grand Lodge, and make demand of the jewels, debts, treasury, furniture and all other property of said Lodges, and to make return to this Grand Lodge at its next Annual Communication, of their proceedings.

Your Committee would further recommend the propriety of electing a Grand Lecturer, whose duty it shall be to visit all the Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, within the present year; also, to attend this Grand Lodge at its next Grand Annual Communication, and report the situation in which he finds said Lodges; and for his services, he shall be entitled to receive as his compensation, from this Grand Lodge, \$300, and from all Subordinate Lodges the sum of \$2 for each member.

10. *Resolved*, That Raymond Lodge, No. 21, have until the 1st February, to make returns and pay their dues for 1836.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

HUGH C. STEWART,
WILLIAM GRAVES,
HASKELL BARRETT,
Committee.

On motion of Bro. Griffin,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will go into the election of its officers for the ensuing year, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made a second report:

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges, to whom was referred the appointment of Bro. G. Griffin as proxy to represent Canton Lodge, U. D., by its W. M., Thomas J. Catching, beg leave to report: That it is their opinion no Lodge can be represented but in the manner and form laid down in the Constitution of this Grand Lodge; and in the opinion of the Committee, all representatives and proxies of Lodges, not officers of the Lodges they represent, must receive their appointment from said Lodges in session, and that appointment certified in due form by the proper officers. They would therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That Bro. Griffin be not recognized as a legal representative or proxy of Canton Lodge, as his appointment was not in accordance with the Constitution of this Grand Lodge.

HUGH C. STEWART,
HASKELL BARRETT,
Committee.

The Grand Secretary then announced the death of Bro. U. J. Whitehead, late 4th D. D. G. M., upon which Bro. S. H. Johnson offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, This Grand Lodge have learned with unaffected regret, of the death of their much esteemed and beloved Bro. U. J. Whitehead, late 4th D. D. G. Master, of this State; therefore be it

Resolved, That the members of this Grand Lodge, as a mark of respect for the memory of the deceased, wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

Resolved, That a copy of the above be transmitted by the Grand Secretary to the family of the deceased.

On motion, the Grand Lodge then adjourned until three o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

• Upon petition of Bros. G. L. C. Davis and Jacob Sorai being presented for membership, the question arose, whether any but Past Masters could vote on said petitions, as none but Past Masters could be elected as members. The Grand Master having decided in the affirmative, an appeal was taken from said decision, and lost. So it was decided that representatives from Subordinate Lodges, who are not Past Masters, could vote for the admission of members into the Grand Lodge.

Bros. Davis and Soria were then unanimously elected members of the Grand Lodge. Bro. E.W. Morris was also unanimously elected member of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then went into the election of officers for the ensuing year, and upon counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were duly and constitutionally elected:

M.: W.: JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.: ROBERT STEWART.....	1st D. D. G. Master.
ROBERT J. FITZ.....	2d D. D. G. Master.
THOMAS S. STERLING.....	3d D. D. G. Master.
HASKELL BARRETT.....	4th D. D. G. Master.
T. P. FALCONER.....	5th D. D. G. Master.
SAMUEL COTTON.....	Grand Senior Warden.
H. C. STEWART.....	Grand Junior Warden.
HENRY TOOLEY.....	Grand Chaplain.
JACOB F. FOOTE.....	Grand Orator.
JOHN R. WELLS.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLE.....	Grand Secretary.
STURGES SPRAGUE.....	Grand Marshal.
G. L. C. DAVIS.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
P. LYNCH.....	Grand Pursuivant.
J. R. PERKINS.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The M.: W.: Grand Master then appointed Bro. Andrew Brown Senior Grand Deacon, and the R.: W.: Grand Senior Warden appointed Bro. Guilford Griffin, Junior Grand Deacon.

Bro. W. D. Smith was then duly elected a member of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Foote, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer shall be paid the sum of three hundred dollars per year in addition to the sums required to be paid to the members of the Subordinate Lodges, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, or in that proportion for the number of Lodges he may lecture, payable to the Grand Treasurer, on the production of the certificates of the Secretaries or Masters of the Subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Lodge then went into the election of Grand Lecturer, and Bro. W. D. Smith was duly elected to fill that office for the ensuing year.

The Grand Officers elect were then installed by the Grand Master in Ancient Form.

The Committee on the Grand Steward and Tyler's Account reported that they had found the same correct.

On motion of Bro. Hugh C. Stewart, it was

Resolved, That the M.: W.: Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, and the Grand Secretary, be a standing committee to make such improvements on the property of this Grand Lodge as they shall deem proper, and draw upon the

Treasurer to pay for the same ; and that said committee be authorized to audit and pay such debts as may have been incurred by the joint committee appointed at the last Communication for this purpose.

On motion of Bro. Robert L. Scott, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed, two hundred copies of such portions of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge as he may deem advisable—subject to the revision of the Grand Lodge ; and that he transmit three copies to each of the Subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till the next Grand Annual Communication on the first Monday in January, A. D. 1838.

WM. P. MELLEN,
Grand Secretary.

TWENTIETH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1838.

NATCHEZ, January 1, 1838.

PRESENT :

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN	Grand Master.
R. W. ROBERT STEWART	1st Deputy Grand Master.
SAMUEL COTTON	Grand Senior Warden.
STEPHEN H. JOHNSON	Grand Junior Warden.
JOHN M. HUBBARD	Grand Secretary <i>p. t.</i>
JOHN R. WELLS	Grand Treasurer.
JOHN M. HENDERSON	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
GUILFORD GRIFFIN	Grand Junior Deacon.
JAMES R. PERKINS	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Grand Lodge opened in the Third Degree of Masonry.

The following Representatives from Subordinate Lodges produced their credentials and took their seats, viz :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—D. S. Jennings, W. M. ; J. B. Ross, J. W.

Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2—Samuel Cotton, W. M. ; J. M. Hubbard, S. W. ; Mark Breeden, J. W.

Washington Lodge, No. 3—Robert Stewart, proxy.

Hiram Lodge, No. 9—J. B. Maxey.

Clinton Lodge, No. 16—George H. Gray, Master ; Geo. R. Clark, Rep. for S. W. ; D. J. White, Rep. for J. W.

Leake Lodge, No. 17—J. A. W. Page.

Raymond Lodge, No. 21—Warren G. Jennings.

Pearl Lodge, No. 23—William Wing, W. M.

Livingston Lodge, No. 24—J. S. Collins.

Gallatin Lodge, No. 25—S. H. Johnson.

Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26—Samuel W. Vannatta, John M. Henderson.

Eastern Star Lodge, No. 27—Henry Rogers.

Canton Lodge, No. 28—Guilford Griffin, proxy.

Coleman Lodge, No. 29—Hamilton Cooper.

Fitz Lodge, No. 30—Guilford Griffin, W. M.

Grenada Lodge, No. 31—Joseph W. Green.

Aberdeen Lodge, U. D.—J. B. Pollard.

Carrollton Lodge, U. D.—Joseph W. Green, proxy.

Liberty Lodge, No. 37—W. R. Carter.

Olive Branch Lodge, U. D.—Gilbert D. Gere.

The report of the Grand Secretary was read and received, and on motion, was ordered to lie on the table.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master appointed the following Committees:
 On Foreign Communications—Bros. White, Griffin and Collins.
 On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. Jennings, Johnson and Henderson.
 Unfinished Business—Bros. Wells, Hubbard and Page.
 Subordinate Lodges—Bros. Green, Cotton and Boyer.
 Grand Secretary's and Treasurer's Books—Bros. Grey, Clark and Wing.
 Grand Steward's and Tyler's Accounts—Bros. Breeden, Gere and Cotton.
 Disposition of Surplus Fund—Bros. Jennings, Stewart, Griffin, Johnson and Grey.

The following resolution was offered and adopted :

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Grand Lodge be and is hereby instructed to issue a charter to Aberdeen Lodge (heretofore working under dispensation from this Grand Body) by the name and style of Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, upon the reception of all dues from said Lodge to this Grand Lodge.

The following resolution was offered and adopted :

Resolved, That the subject of the disposition of the surplus revenue be referred to a committee of five appointed by the M. W. Grand Master.

The following resolution was offered by Bro. Henderson and adopted :

Resolved, That the specifications, charges, etc., against Brother Gere, reported by the Grand Secretary, be referred to the Standing Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

Adjourned.

TUESDAY, January 2, 1838.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge resumed business.

Bros. J. M. Henderson and S. W. Vannata, were elected members.

On motion, the report of the committee on the case of Bro. Gere, with resolution, was adopted, and on motion, it was ordered to lie on the table.

The Committee on Unfinished Business reported that on examination, they find nothing requiring the attention of the Grand Lodge.

REPORT OF THE GRAND TREASURER.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

In accordance with the established rule, the Grand Treasurer begs leave to make his report. Since your last Annual Communication the office of Treasurer has been merely nominal, the Grand Secretary being familiar with all the concerns of the Grand Lodge, has discharged most of the duties of Treasurer as well as Secretary. The only funds your Treasurer has received was on the 28th of December, \$98.67, which is the balance in the Treasury, on the 1st of January, 1838. All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN R. WELLS, Grand Treasurer.

On motion of Bro. Griffin, the report was received and referred to Committee on Accounts.

Bro. Wells moved that the above report of the Grand Treasurer, be referred to the Committee on Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer's Books. Adopted.

Bro. Jennings offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause five hundred copies of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, to be printed and distributed (— Nos.) to each Subordinate Lodge, retaining the rest for the use of the Grand Lodge when in session.

Moved by Brother Henderson, that the blank be filled by inserting 10. Adopted.

Brother Wells offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That a Standing Committee be appointed for the present year, whose duty it shall be to have all necessary repairs done to the Hall and Lot, also to have a cistern built as soon as practicable.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. J. R. Wells and J. M. Hubbard, Committee, and on motion of Bro. Wells, Bro. R. Stewart was added to Committee.

Bro. S. C. Smith's account was then received, and referred to Committee on Accounts.

The following resolution to amend the By-Laws and Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, was offered, and ordered to lie on the table :

Resolved, To strike out all after the word "first," in Sec. 3, Art. 3, and insert "for every degree conferred upon candidates the preceding year, the sum of twenty-five cents for every member, and the sum of fifty cents annually."

Adjourned till 3 o'clock P. M.

3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

On motion of Bro. Jennings, the report of the Committee on Appeals and Complaints, in relation to the charges brought against Bro. Gere, was taken up

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals to whom was referred the specifications and charges against Bro. Gere, reported by Bro. Grand Secretary, beg. leave to submit the following, to-wit :

The charges and specifications against Bro. Gere, resolve themselves into two propositions : 1st, That being the delegate of Leaf River Lodge to the Grand Lodge, and having received the sum of one hundred and thirty dollars, dues from said Lodge, he has not paid said sum of money to the Grand Lodge, nor accounted to Leaf River Lodge for the non-payment of it. 2d, That his being still a member of Leaf River Lodge, he became a member of Olive Branch Lodge. These charges are preferred, as this Committee is advised by several brethren, late members of Leaf River Lodge, which some time ago ceased to exist ; this Committee conceive that if these charges could be fully substantiated, that they would not afford ground for the action of the Grand Lodge. Suppose Bro. Gere had embezzled the money entrusted to him by the Subordinate Lodge, he would certainly deserve to be expelled from the fraternity. He may have been guilty of carelessness, such as would merit suspension, reprimand or admonition ; but we conceive that these sentences would in the first instance be most appropriately pronounced by a Subordinate Lodge. The Committee take the same view of the second charge, believing in both cases that the Grand Lodge cannot, and certainly ought not, entertain any other than appellate jurisdiction. There is, however, one thing that this Lodge ought in our opinion, to do in regard to these charges—they ought to appoint a Subordinate Lodge to investigate and pronounce judgment on them. We therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the charges and specifications against Bro. Gere, mentioned in the report of the Grand Secretary, be committed to Eastern Star Lodge, No. 27, for examination and sentence, reserving to either, those who prosecute

them, or to Bro. Gere the right of appeal, and that the Grand Secretary transmit all the documents in the Grand Lodge relating to said charges to said Lodge.

D. S. JENNINGS,
J. M. HENDERSON,
S. H. JOHNSON.

Report adopted.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. Henderson, was adopted :

Resolved, That the letter from Deputy Grand Master of 3d District in relation to Olive Branch Lodge, under dispensation, be referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On petition, Brothers W. W. Wilkins and John M. Hubbard were elected members.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. G. H. Gray, was adopted :

Resolved, That in future, all rejections, suspensions and expulsions reported to this Grand Lodge in the United States of America, and from all foreign Grand Lodges, be inserted in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge immediately succeeding the receipt of the same.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the By-Laws of Coleman Lodge be referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Adjourned to 11 o'clock to-morrow.

JANUARY 3d, 11 o'clock A. M.

Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Foreign Communications asked further time to report. Granted.

Committee on Lectures, announced to the Lodge, that they are ready to report.

On petition, Bro. R. J. McGinty was elected a member.

The following resolution was offered and adopted :

Resolved, That the resolution of the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, authorizing the election of a Grand Lecturer, and declaring that he shall receive three hundred dollars from the Grand Lodge; and from all Subordinate Lodges the sum of two dollars for each member, is consistent with the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and the fundamental principles of Masonry.

The following resolution was offered and adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will proceed to the election of officers hereof, on to-morrow morning, January 4th, at 11 o'clock.

JANUARY 3d, 11 o'clock, A. M.

The petition of Bro. Woodson Wren, Past Master, relative to the removal of the iron railing in front of the Masonic Hall was rejected.

The report of the Grand Lecturer was received.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. Page, was ordered to lie on the table:

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer shall give due notice of the time when he will visit each Subordinate Lodge.

The following report of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges was read with resolutions, and received and agreed to:

Your Committee beg leave to report, that out of the Lodges under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, returns have been received from Harmony, No. 1, Andrew Jackson, No. 2, Washington, No. 3, Clinton, No. 16, Leake, No. 17, Pearl, No. 23, Livingston, No. 24, Gallatin, No. 25, Vicksburg, No. 26, Eastern Star, No. 27, Clinton, No. 28, Coleman, No. 29, Fitz, No. 30, Grenada, No. 31, Hiram, No. 9, Raymond, No. 21, Liberty, U. D., Carrollton, U. D., Aberdeen, U. D., Olive Branch, U. D.; also petitions for charters from Holly Springs and Oxford, Miss.

No returns have been received from Columbus, No. 5, and Quitman, No. 18.

The accounts of the labor of Liberty, U. D., Aberdeen, U. D., Carrollton, U. D., and Olive Branch, U. D., have been received, and are found to be within the limits of the ancient landmarks of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons.

Your Committee would also recommend the adoption of the following resolutions.

Resolved, That charters be issued to Liberty, Aberdeen, Carrollton and Olive Branch Lodges, U. D.

Resolved, That the brethren at Holly Springs and at Oxford, receive a charter

Resolved, That the By-Laws of Pearl and Coleman Lodges be recognized by this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the amendment of the By-Laws of Clinton Lodge, No. 16, striking out from first section of the seventh article, the words "or by a Committee appointed for that purpose," passed at the regular communication of said Lodge, in October, A. D., 1837, be approved.

Resolved, That the amendment of the By-Laws of the Eastern Star Lodge, No. 27, striking out from the first section, article two, the work "Baptist," and inserting "Evangelist," be approved.

Resolved, That the subjoined form of return for Subordinate Lodges, be adopted, and printed with the Constitution of this Grand Lodge.*

Resolved, That Columbus and Quitman Lodges have until the first day of July next, to make their annual returns and pay their dues to this Grand Lodge for the year 1837, and the said Lodges be notified of the same.

Resolved, That the fourth section of the first article of the By-Laws of Coleman Lodge, No. 29, be stricken out.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

JOE. W. GREEN,
SAMUEL COTTON.

Adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

4 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

R. W. ROBERT STEWART.....D. G. M. First District.
S. H. JOHNSON.....Grand Senior Warden, p. l.

*NOTE—The form of return is omitted from the "Extract from the proceedings published."

WM. WING.....Grand Junior Warden, *p. t.*
 J. M. HUBBARD.....Grand Secretary, *p. t.*
 J. R. WELLS.....Grand Treasurer.
 GUILFORD GRIFFIN.....Grand Senior Deacon.
 S. W. VANATTA.....Grand Junior Deacon, *p. t.*
 JAS. R. PERKINS.....Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Committee on the Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's Books, reported that they had found the same correct.

The following report of the Committee on Surplus Fund, with resolutions, was received and adopted:

The select committee appointed under the resolution in relation to the disposition of the surplus revenue of the Grand Lodge, have had the subject under consideration, and beg leave most respectfully to report the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient at this time, to adopt any particular plan for disposing of the surplus funds of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DUDLEY S. JENNINGS,
 S. H. JOHNSON,
 ROBERT STEWART,
 GUILFORD GRIFFIN,
 GEO. H. GRAY.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Communications was received and adopted:

That they have examined Communications from the Grand Lodges of the States of Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Territory of Florida, the Grand Masonic Lodge of Ireland, and the State of New York, and find nothing requiring the particular attention of this Grand Lodge.

Your committee take much pleasure in saying, that the returns from all the States which have made Communications to this Grand Lodge at its present session, and from Ireland, testify to the flourishing condition of Masonry within their several Jurisdictions. The committee would recommend reciprocal civilities with the Grand Lodges from whom this Grand Lodge has received Communications.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

DAVID J. WHITE,
 GUILFORD GRIFFIN.

On petition, Bro. Dudley S. Jennings was elected a member.

On petition, Bro. Matthew Clark was elected a member.

The following resolution was offered and adopted:

Resolved, That a Grand Lecturer be elected by this Grand Lodge, whose duty it shall be to visit and lecture all the Subordinate Lodges under this Grand Lodge, within the present year; also to attend this Grand Lodge at its next Grand Annual Communication, and report the situation in which he finds said Lodges; and for his services he shall be entitled to receive from this Lodge, \$—.

On motion, adjourned to 9 A. M., to-morrow.

* NOTE—The Grand Secretary's report is not published in the "Extracts" for the year and the receipts and expenditures are nowhere given; it is impossible at this time, the original record having been lost, to ascertain the amount or source from which the "surplus revenue" referred to in the report of the committee on that subject, was obtained.

JANUARY, 4th—9 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Bro. E. W. Morris, representative of Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, appeared and took his seat.

On petition, Bros. Page and Breeden were elected members.

Order of the day called for by Bro. Ellis.

On motion of Bro. Jennings, the Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers.

Adjourned 15 minutes.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment and proceeded to the election of officers, with the following result:

M.: W.: ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.: JOHN M. HENDERSON.....	D. D. G. M., 1st District.
GUILFORD GRIFFIN.....	D. D. G. M., 2d District.
WILLIS P. COLEMAN.....	D. D. G. M., 3d District.
JNO. A. W. PAGE.....	D. D. G. M., 4th District.
T. B. POLLARD.....	D. D. G. M., 5th District.
THOS. G. ELLIS.....	Grand Senior Warden.
E. W. MORRIS.....	Grand Junior Warden.
JAMES C. MITCHELL.....	Grand Chaplain.
D. S. JENNINGS.....	Grand Orator.
JNO. R. WELLS.....	Grand Treasurer.
JNO. M. HUBBARD.....	Grand Secretary.
P. L. MITCHELL.....	Grand Marshal.
G. H. GRAY.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
MARK BREEDEN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
A. D. SPRIGGS.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The M.: W.: Grand Master appointed S. W. Vanatta, Grand Senior Deacon.

The Grand Senior Warden appointed W. L. Smith, Grand Junior Deacon.

On motion of Bro. Jennings, the blank in the resolution to appoint a Grand Lecturer for the present year, was filled with \$1000.

On motion of Bro. Ellis, proceeded to an election of Grand Lecturer, when Bro. White was declared duly elected.

Adjourned for one hour.

On resuming business,

Bro. Gere moved that the Grand Lecturer's accounts be referred to a committee of three, to be appointed by the M.: W.: Grand Master.

Bros. Ellis, White and Henderson were appointed.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. Ellis, was adopted:

Resolved, That Eastern Star Lodge be requested to rescind the second section of the fifth article of the By-Laws of said Lodge.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That no Subordinate Lodge can consistently, with the principles of Masonry, permit an Entered Apprentice, or Fellow Craft Mason to vote.

A resolution offered Bro. Green, that the report of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges, be recommitted. Adopted.

The following resolution was offered by Bro. Gere, and adopted:

Resolved, That the Deputy Grand Master of the third district, Bro. W. P. Coleman, call on Bro. Thos. S. Sterling, formerly Deputy Grand Master, for the jewels and furniture of Leaf River Lodge, No. 19, and hand them over to the officers of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34.

Bro. J. S. Smith's account, ordered to be paid, on motion of Bro. Henderson.

The report of the Select Committee on the Grand Lecturer's account, on motion of Bro. Ellis, was received and agreed to.

The resolution of Bro. Gere, read as amended by Bro. Ellis, was adopted.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed five hundred copies of such portions of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge as he may deem advisable, subject however, to the revision of the Grand Master, and that he transmit to each Grand Lodge in communication with this Grand Lodge, one copy thereof, and to each Subordinate Lodge of this Grand Lodge, ten copies thereof.

The Committee on the Grand Steward and Tyler's Account made their report, which was received and agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Wing, the Grand Officers elect were duly installed.

On motion of Bro. Henderson, the Grand Lodge adjourned until the next Grand Annual Communication.

NOTE—The proceedings are not authenticated by the Grand Secretary.

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1839.

MASONIC HALL, NATCHEZ, January 17, 1839.

PRESENT:

M. W. ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Master.
R. W. T. S. SALMON.....	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
STEPHEN H. JOHNSON.....	Grand Junior Warden.
JOHN M. HUBBARD.....	Grand Secretary.
JNO. R. WELLS.....	Grand Treasurer.
S. W. VANNATA.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
JAS. B. CALDWELL.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
THOS. ROSE.....	G. Steward and Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

The following named representatives of Subordinate Lodges appeared, presented their credentials, and took their seats:

Harmony, No. 1—James Thistle.
 Andrew Jackson, No. 2—J. M. Hubbard, W. W. Wilkins.
 Washington, No. 3—Wm. Davis.
 Hiram No. 9—H. McFarren, J. B. Newman, J. B. Maxey.
 Columbus, No. 5—
 Clinton, No. 16—Talbot H. Parsons, Calvin Miller, Geo. H. Gray.
 Leake, No. 17—A. G. Harrison.
 Quitman, No. 18—Wm. H. Davis.
 Raymond, No. 21—
 Pearl, No. 23—Jos. W. Fite.
 Lexington, No. 24—Moses B. Rogers.
 Gallatin, No. 25—S. H. Johnson, W. J. Willing, Wm. Graves.
 Vicksburg, No. 26—R. J. McGinty.
 Eastern Star, 27—Henry Boyer.
 Canton, No. 28—J. S. Salmon.
 Coleman, No. 29—Wm. Cooper, John Boynton.
 Fitz, No. 30—
 Grenada, No. 31—David E. Creyler.
 Aberdeen, No. 32—
 Oxford, No. 33—Returns made.
 Olive Branch, No. 34—Joshua Burkholter.
 Holly Springs, No. 35—
 Carrollton, No. 36—
 Liberty, No. 37—J. Walker.
 Ancient York, under dispensation—S. W. Vannata.

Pontotoc, U. D.; Tuscahoma, U. D.; Livingston, U. D.; Paulding, U. D., not represented.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The following Standing Committees were appointed by the M. W. Grand Master, for the ensuing year, viz :

Foreign Committee—Bros. Cooper, Pugh, Harris and Salmon.

Complaints and Appeals—Bros. Boyer, Fite, Graves and Massey.

Unfinished Business—Bros. Vanatta, Walker and Hubbard.

Subordinate Lodges—Bros. Johnson, Creyler and Gray.

Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's Books—Bros. Cotton, Rogers and Davis.

Grand Secretary's and Treasurer's Accounts—Bros. Thistle and Mitchell.

Disposition of Surplus Fund—Bros. Miller, Parsons and Fitz.

The Grand Secretary's report was presented and read, and on motion, was received and ordered to lie on the table.

The following resolution was submitted by Bre. S. H. Johnson, and adopted :

WHEREAS, The mournful intelligence of the death of our late Right Worshipful Grand Senior Warden, Thomas G. Ellis, has been communicated by the M. W. Grand Master to this Grand Lodge, therefore be it

Resolved, That, as a mark of the sincere respect and esteem entertained by the members of this Grand Lodge for the memory of the deceased, the usual badge of mourning be adopted for thirty days.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to furnish the family of the deceased with a copy of this preamble and resolutions.

The petitions of Bros. T. C. Finny, J. B. Caldwell, Wm. Cooper and T. S. Salmon for membership, were presented, read and received, and on motion, ballots being taken on each, they were severally elected members.

On motion, adjourned until to-morrow, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, January 8, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Bros. Wm. Cooper and C. W. Harris, from the Committee on Foreign Communications, submitted the following report :

The Committee on Foreign Communications, beg leave to report, that they have received printed communications from the Grand Lodge of Maine, Maryland, Alabama and New York, and learn with pleasure the advancement and prosperity of Masonry in those States.

They have also received a communication from the St. John's Grand Lodge, in the city of New York, and from a careful examination of the causes which led to the organization of said Grand Lodge, and the materials of which it is composed, they deem it inexpedient to acknowledge said Grand Lodge as a legal body.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

On motion the above report was agreed to, and the Committee discharged.

The following report from the Committee appointed to examine the Grand Secretary's and Treasurer's Books, was received and agreed to, and the Committee, on motion to that effect, was discharged :

We, the Committee appointed to examine the Treasurer's and Secretary's

account's, beg leave to report, after a full and complete examination, they find that the

Treasurer has received.....\$3030 50
And that he has disbursed..... 2929 80

Leaving a balance in the Treasury.....\$ 100 70

On examination we find that the Secretary has received.....\$2174 33
And disbursed..... 2174 33

In addition, there is in the possession of the Grand Secretary a bonus for the sum of two hundred and twenty-seven dollars, also a note of hand against the Rev. S. A. Hodgeman, for the amount of \$264 66, which was taken for rents of two rooms in the basement story of the Masonic Hall for the last year, which will shortly be paid.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. H. DAVIS,
M. B. ROGERS,
Committee.

The petitions of Bros. A. G. Carpenter, Thos. Rose, W. H. Davis and J. Walker, for membership, properly recommended, were presented, read and received, and on motion, ballots were entered into for each respectively, when they were declared duly elected members.

Bro. S. H. Johnson submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That representatives of Lodges who have been furnished with uncurrent funds to defray their dues to the Grand Lodge, be permitted to return the same to their Lodges, and that said Lodges have until the next regular Communication of the Grand Lodge to pay their dues.

On motion of the same brother, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That hereafter the dues to this Grand Lodge shall be paid in specie or in the notes of specie paying banks.

The following report from the Committee for the disposition of the Surplus Fund, was received and agreed to, and on motion, the Committee was discharged :

The Committee on the Surplus Revenue of the Grand Lodge, beg leave to report : That it appears from the report of the Committee on Grand Secretary's and Treasurer's books, that there is only a small surplus remaining on hand, which will be needed to pay the current expenses of the present session of the Grand Lodge, and therefore, recommend that it remain in the Treasury.

R. D. FITZ,
CALVIN MILLER,
T. H. PARSONS,
Committee.

A motion was made for an adjournment until 10 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow, which was carried.

WEDNESDAY, January 9th, 1839, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Bro. G. H. Gray submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed by the M. W. Grand Master, whose duty it shall be, to examine the Constitution of the W. Grand Lodge, as now printed, also minutes of the proceedings of all the Grand Com-

munications since the adoption of the same, and collect and embody such parts of the Constitution as appear now to be in force, and such resolutions as have been passed since the adoption of the same, and are now in force, and make their report to the next Grand Annual communication.

In pursuance of the foregoing, the M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. Wm. P. Mellen, Jno. R. Wells and James Thistle said committee, and on motion, the M. W. Grand Master, Robert Stewart, was added thereto.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a dispensation issue to the petitioners herein mentioned, upon their paying the usual fees, and that L. W. Ballard be appointed their first Worshipful Master, J. M. Scanland, their first Senior Warden, and Dan'l McDougall their first Junior Warden.

On motion a dispensation was granted to Grand Gulf Lodge.*

The following resolution was proposed by Bro. G. H. Gray, and adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to cause the proceedings of each Grand Annual Communication to be transmitted to each Subordinate Lodge, within ninety days after the close of such Communication.

The following amendment to the above was proposed by Bro. Henry Boyer, and adopted :

Resolved, That the foregoing be amended by adding, "That this Grand Secretary be instructed to furnish a list of the members of the Grand Lodge."

On motion of Bro. D. J. White, the following resolution, submitted by him, was adopted :

Resolved, That each Subordinate Lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be required to report on their Annual Communication, all regularly Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts for advancement, and that the same be published in the proceedings.

On motion, a resolution to issue a dispensation to the brethren at Monroe, was adopted.

The report of the Grand Lecturer of the State of Mississippi, Bro. D. J. White, was received and read, and ordered to be filed among the archives of Grand Lodge.

Bro. R. J. McGinty submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the election of officers of this M. W. Grand Lodge for the ensuing year, shall take place to-morrow at 3 o'clock, P. M.

On motion, adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow.

THURSDAY, Jan. 10, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on repairs required for the Masonic Hall, made the following report, which was received and agreed to :

To the M. W. Grand Master, and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi :

The Committee for the Repairs of the Masonic Hall, beg leave to report, that they have, as far as practicable, complied with the duties assigned them,

* NOTE—It is probable that the dispensation to Bro. Ballard and others, and that to Grand Gulf Lodge, is one and the same thing, though as it is not clear the committee give the entire record as it stands in the original published "extract from the proceedings."

that they were unable to procure mechanics to work, payable in Brandon money, which was the only funds in treasury.

They, therefore, beg for further time to make a complete report. All of which is respectfully submitted,

JNO. R. WELLS,
JNO. M. HUBBARD,
Committee.

Bro. G. H. Gray, proposed the following resolution, which was carried :

Resolved, That the following amendment to the Constitution, offered at the last Grand Annual Communication, lie on the table until the next Grand Annual Communication, viz :

Resolved, To strike out all after the word "first," in Section 3, Article 3, and insert, "for every degree conferred upon candidates the preceding year, the sum of twenty-five cents, and for every member the sum of fifty cents annually."

Bro. R. J. McGinty submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That whereas it is represented by the Grand Treasurer, that in meeting the engagements of the Grand Lodge, and sustaining its credit, he has advanced certain sums of money for the use of said Lodge, the funds of said Lodge in his hands at the time being uncurrent ; therefore,

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master be authorized to reimburse and satisfy Bro. Wells, Grand Treasurer, for any loss or damage he may have sustained in the premises.

Bro. R. J. McGinty proposed the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That no part of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge shall be so construed, as to require from Subordinate Lodges, membership fees for any brother who was not a member according to the By-Laws of the Subordinate Lodge, at the last regular meeting of the said Lodge preceding the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. R. J. McGinty, the following resolution submitted by him, was adopted :

Resolved, That the Subordinate Lodges working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall so amend their By-Laws and adopt their work, that no business shall be transacted in a Lodge of Entered Apprentices or Fellow Crafts, except the conferring of the degrees, and that no Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft be admitted to membership.

Resolved, That all resolutions of this Grand Lodge on the subject, adopted at the present session, be repealed.

The petitions of Bros. Henry Boyer, Jas. R. Kane, Moses B. Rogers, Wm. Graves and Joseph H. Harvey, properly recommended, were presented, read and received, and ballots being entered into on each respectively, they were severally elected members of this Grand Lodge.

The following report from the Committee on Complaints and Grievances, was read and agreed to :

To the M. W. Grand Master and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi :

Your Committee on Complaints and Grievances, beg leave to report : That a matter of deep consideration has been placed before this Committee, which is that of the expulsion of Bro. B. Gresham from Quitman Lodge, No. 18. We therefore beg leave to state, that it is to appeal from said Lodge to this Grand Lodge, and inasmuch as the appeal has been granted, we therefore beg leave to refer the papers to this Grand Lodge for further action.

Your Committee conceive it to be the duty of the Grand Lodge, to refund to Coleman Lodge, the amount of dues which said Lodge paid through mistake of their Secretary.

All of which is respectfully submitted, and this Committee request to be discharged from further action in the premises.

J. W. FITE,
T. S. SALMON,
WM. GRAVES,
Committee.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That Bro. B. Gresham have a hearing before this Grand Lodge, and that both Bro. Gresham and Quitman Lodge, No. 18, be cited to appear.

Bro. D. E. Creyler submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the case of Bro. Gresham be laid over until the third day of our next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary give notice to Bro. Gresham and Quitman Lodge, No 18, to appear in person, with such papers as appertain to the case in his defence.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report:

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report: That of the Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, returns have been received from the following, viz:

Harmony, No. 1; Andrew Jackson, No. 2; Washington, No. 3; Hiram, No. 9, Clinton, No. 16; Leake, No. 17; Quitman, No. 18; Raymond, No. 21, Pearl, No. 23; Lexington, No. 24; Gallatin, No. 25; Vicksburg, No. 26; Eastern Star, No. 27; Canton, No. 28; Coleman, No. 29; Grenada, No. 31; Aberdeen, No. 32; Oxford, No. 33; Olive Branch, No. 34; Liberty, No. 37; Ancient York, U. D., and Paulding, U. D. Also returns from Columbus, No. 5, and Quitman, No. 18, for 1837, received since the last Grand Annual Communication. A petition for a charter from Ancient York Lodge, U. D., and petitions for dispensation from Macon, Livingston, Tippah, Yazoo, Monroe and Grand Gulf.

The returns from Hiram Lodge, No. 9; Quitman, No. 18; Washington, No. 3; Olive Branch, No. 34; and Paulding, U. D., are not found strictly in the prescribed form, though not essentially erroneous.

The annual return from Canton Lodge, No. 28, for the year 1837, has been referred to your Committee for correction, the sum of seventeen dollars having by mistake of the Secretary, been paid for Masons under the degree of Master Masons and not members of the Lodge.

No returns have been received from Columbus, No. 5; Fitz, No. 30; Carrollton, U. D., and Holly Springs, and Pontotoc, U. D., and Tusculumbia Lodge, U. D.

The By-Laws of Leake, No. 17; Eastern Star, No. 27; Oxford, No. 33; Liberty, No. 37, and Ancient York, U. D., have also been laid before your Committee.

A communication from Bro. James A. Girault, Secretary of Tuscahoma Lodge, U. D., addressed to Bro. Creyler, of Grenada Lodge, stating the reasons why they could not report to the Grand Lodge at this Annual Communication, and praying for an extension of their dispensation, is before them.

After examining the several documents before them, and bestowing upon them the reflection which they have deemed proper, your committee respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That those Lodges whose returns are informal, hereafter adopt the prescribed form.

Resolved, That Dispensations issue to Macon, Livingston, Tippah, Monroe, Yazoo and Grand Gulf, upon the petitions for the several Lodges complying with the usual requisitions.

Resolved, That the By-Laws of Leake Lodge, No. 17, Eastern Star, No. 27, Oxford, No. 33, Liberty, No. 37, and Ancient York, U. D., be approved by the Grand Lodge, and that it be recommended to those Lodges respectively, to adopt such alterations as the committee have marked.

Resolved, That for the reasons assigned by the Secretary of Tuscahoma Lodge, U. D., that their Dispensation be extended until the next Grand Annual Communication.

Resolved, That the sum of seventeen dollars be refunded to Canton Lodge, No. 28, it being by mistake of the Secretary of that Lodge returned as due to the Grand Lodge for the year 1837.

Your Committee find what they conceive to be an error in the proceedings of Ancient York Lodge, working under dispensation. By their returns it appears that, on the third December, 1838, an election was held for officers for the ensuing year, when other brethren were elected than those appointed by the Grand Master, and consequently, the work performed by those officers was illegal. They recommend that inasmuch as they have not made a return of their proceedings to the Grand Lodge, that the first District Deputy Grand Master be authorized to examine their work, and report to the Grand Master; and upon a favorable report that this Grand Lodge recognize their proceedings as legal and grant them a charter.

Paulding Lodge having failed to make a return of their proceedings, they recommend that upon a favorable report of the same, by the Deputy Grand Master of that District, that a charter be granted to them.

And for the more general and particular information of those uninformed, they recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That brethren working under dispensation from this Grand Lodge, have no right to hold an election for officers of their Lodge, or to be governed by other officers than those appointed by the Grand Master in the dispensation; and that after their making a return of their dispensation to the Grand Lodge, they have no further power to work, until a charter be granted and the Lodge duly constituted.

All of which is most respectfully submitted,

S. H. JOHNSON,
GEO. H. GRAY,
D. E. CUYLER,
Committee.

On motion, the above report was concurred in, and the Committee discharged.

The following resolution was proposed by Bro. Cooper, and adopted:

Resolved, That those Lodges under dispensation, not having made returns of work, be granted an extension of their dispensations.

Bro. G. H. Gray submitted the following resolution, which was, on motion, adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to examine all communications sent to this Grand Lodge from the Grand Lodges of the United States of America, and copy from them all rejections, suspensions and expulsions contained therein, together with the date of such sentence, and the name and number of the Lodge passing such, and insert them in the communications sent to the Subordinate Lodges.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That those Lodges which have not made returns to this Grand Lodge, be granted until the first day of June next to make their returns and pay their dues.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned until half-past two o'clock P. M.

HALF-PAST TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to examine the Grand Steward and Tyler's account reported that they had found the same correct. The following is the account referred to :

<i>Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi,</i> <i>To Thos. Rose, Grand Steward and Tyler, pro. tem.,</i>		DR.
For refreshments during the year 1839.....	—	\$230 00
services as Tyler.....		20 00
amount of table furniture.....		41 50
Total.....		\$291 50

The following preamble and resolution submitted by Bro. S. W. Vannatta, were adopted :

WHEREAS, That Ancient York Lodge, U. D., has failed to make a return of the minutes of said Lodge, in consequence of not knowing it was necessary to do so, and being under the eye and care of the First Deputy Grand Master, and having acted in obedience to his instruction ; it is therefore

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to issue a charter to Ancient York Lodge, U. D., so soon as the First D. G. Master shall have made a favorable report of their acts, until which time the dispensation heretofore granted by this Grand Lodge shall remain in full force.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That a Grand Lecturer be elected by this Grand Lodge, whose duty it shall be to visit and lecture all Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, within the present year ; also, to attend this Grand Lodge at its next Grand Annual Communication, and report the situation in which he finds said Lodges, and for his services he shall be entitled to receive from this Lodge the sum of one thousand dollars.

3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Lodge proceeded to an election of officers to serve during the ensuing year, and the following brethren were chosen to fill the several stations affixed to their names :

M. W. ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Master.
R. W. S. W. VANNATTA.....	1st D. G. Master.
S. H. JOHNSON.....	2d D. G. Master.
WM. COOPER.....	3d D. G. Master.
JNO. A. WILSON.....	4th D. G. Master.
— WIGHTMAN.....	5th D. G. Master.
SAM'L COTTON.....	Grand Senior Warden.
ANDREW BROWN.....	Grand Junior Warden.
HENRY TOOLEY.....	Grand Chaplain.
HENRY BOYER.....	Grand Orator.
JNO. R. WELLS.....	Grand Treasurer.
JNO. M. HUBBARD.....	Grand Secretary.
P. L. MITCHELL.....	Grand Marshal.
J. H. HARVEY.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
THOS. C. FINNEY.....	Grand Pursuivant.
THOS. ROSE.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.
D. J. WHITE.....	Grand Lecturer.

The petition of Bro. Wm. Vannerson, for membership, properly recommended, was presented and read, and, on motion, a ballot was had thereon, when he was declared duly elected a member of this Lodge.

The following resolution, submitted by Bro. S. H. Johnson, was adopted :

Resolved, That the next Grand Annual Communication be held on the first Monday of February, 1840.

Bro. G. H. Gray proposed the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to insert annually, in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, to be furnished for the Subordinate Lodges, a list of the Lodges composing each Masonic District, in numerical order, and as charters are granted to new Lodges, that they be added to their respective districts.

Adjourned until 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

FRIDAY, January 11th, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The M. W. Grand Master then proceeded to the installation of the officers of M. W. Grand Lodge to serve for the ensuing year.

Bro. Fitz submitted the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the 3d section of the 3d article of the Constitution be amended so as to read thus : " That the Grand Lodge, at each Grand Annual Communication shall have power to fix the fees and contributions to be paid by Subordinate Lodges to this Grand Lodge for the ensuing year."

On motion of Bro. Fitz, it was

Resolved, That the 8th section of the 1st article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge be so amended as to read as follows : The Grand Lodge shall have power at each Grand Annual Communication or Communications, to fix by resolution the time of holding its next Grand Annual Communication, or Communications, which time of meeting, so fixed, shall be the Grand Annual Communication, when the returns of the Subordinate Lodges shall be received and examined, and Committees appointed to examine the books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, to examine visiting brethren, and make reports on Complaints and Appeals, and give their opinion on all questions and matters submitted to the Grand Lodge for investigation.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary notify absent officers of their election.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause 300 copies of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge to be printed, and that four copies be sent to each Subordinate Lodge in the State.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned.

ATTEST :

JOHN M. HUBBARD, Grand Secretary.

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

1840.

NATCHEZ, February 3d, 1840.

PRESENT:

M. W. ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL COTTON.....	Grand Senior Warden.
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
JOHN M. HUBBARD.....	Grand Secretary
JOHN R. WELLS.....	Grand Treasurer.
P. L. MITCHELL.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
F. F. BOWEN.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
A. D. SPRIGGS.....	Grand Steward & Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

The following named Representatives of Subordinate Lodges appeared, presented their credentials, and took their seats:

Harmony Lodge No. 1—Wm. P. Mellen and James Thistle.
Andrew Jackson, No. 2—Samuel Cotton.
Washington, No. 3—Thomas T. Hogg and Thomas D. Jeffres.
Hiram, No. 9—H. M. Hurlburt and J. L. Conner.
Clinton, No. 16—George H. Gray.
Leake, No. 17—Thomas P. Slade.
Raymond, No. 21—L. Edmondson.
Lexington, No. 24—John Lacy.
Gallatin, No. 25—S. H. Johnson.
Vicksburg, No. 26—Thomas J. Harper.
Eastern Star, No. 27—Henry Boyer.
Canton, No. 28—Thomas J. Catching.
Coleman, No. 29—T. Lane and W. P. Coleman.
Holly Springs, No. 35—Geo. A. Wilson.
Olive Branch, No. 34—John Burkhalter.
Liberty, No. 37—D. Jewitt.
Ancient York, No. 38—S. W. Vannatta.
Yazoo, U. D.—James A. Stevens.
Grand Gulf, U. D.—John M. Duffield.
Shady Grove, U. D.—S. H. Johnson.

There being a quorum present the Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form and proceeded to business.

The Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committees:

Foreign Communications—Bros. Mellen, Gray and Lacy.
Complaints and Appeals—Bros. Johnson and Boyer.
Unfinished Business—Bros. Vannatta, Duffield and Jewitt.
Subordinate Lodges—Bros. Coleman, Hubbard and Stevens.

Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's Books and Accounts—Bros. Harper, Stevens and Catchings.

Grand Steward's and Tyler's Account—Mitchell and Wells.

Disposition of Surplus Funds—Cotton, Conner and Edmondson.

Bros. T. White, John R. Hewitt, J. T. Dickey, L. Botts and James Brown, Past Masters and Members of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2. Bro. Thos. J. Harper, a Past Master and Member of Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, and Pitt Thomas, a Past Master and Member of Ancient York Lodge, No. 28, were, upon their several petitions, duly and constitutionally elected members of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M., to-morrow.

TUESDAY, February 4th, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Foreign Communications made the following report:

The Committee on Foreign Communications have examined communications from the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Missouri, Indiana, Kentucky and Maryland, and are pleased to observe the general prosperity of the fraternity. They have noticed that there is much unanimity in the action of the several Grand Lodges of the United States, upon the subject of the clandestine Grand Lodge in the State of New York, called St. John's Grand Lodge, and in addition to the determination of this Grand Lodge not to recognize said clandestine Grand Lodge, recommend the adoption of the preamble and resolutions marked "A," appended to this report.

The attention of your Committee has also been directed to a proposition emanating originally from the Grand Lodge of New York, that some well known and respectable brother of the rank of Past Master, be appointed at the discretion and on the warrant of the Grand Master; said Representative to be a resident of the State or Kingdom in which he is commissioned, hold Masonic jurisdiction, and his duties to be prescribed by the Grand Lodges. And, also, that all Foreign Grand Lodges, in correspondence with them, be allowed a resident representative, to be always clothed in the peculiar costume of the Grand Lodges they severally represent, and be allowed the privilege of speaking in Grand Lodge on all subjects of general interest to the Craft or the Grand Lodge he represents in particular, but without a vote.

With their present lights upon the subject, your Committee are entirely opposed to the creation of such an office. They see many objections to it, not necessary to detail, while they are aware of no peculiar advantage, and as the means of communication through the Grand Secretaries appear ample enough for all legitimate ends, they would recommend that the Grand Lodge respectfully decline the proposition.

In the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, the Committee find a resolution, a copy of which marked "B," they have annexed, and recommend the adoption of the same, or one of similar import, by this Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge of Missouri desire an expression of an opinion, as to the propriety of the practice, which has prevailed with some Subordinate Lodges, of opening in the E. A. and F. C. degrees and transacting the ordinary business of the Lodge, instead of in a Lodge of Master Masons. The resolution of this Grand Lodge, at its last Grand Annual Communication, forbidding such

practice, and that also of admitting E. A. and F. C. Masons to membership, is a sufficient expression of the opinion of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi upon this subject.

It is with great regret that we learn from our M. W. G. M. that, while on a visit to New Orleans, during the session at that city, of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, he was desirous of visiting the same, but was informed that the By-Laws of that Grand Lodge permitted of no visitors. Your Committee believe that such By-Law is discourteous, and that it is in direct opposition to the rules and regulations of Ancient Masonry, and recommend that the Grand Secretary be instructed to address the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and ascertain the reason for the adoption of such By-Law.

In conclusion, your Committee would recommend the usual courtesies in the transmission of a copy of the published proceedings of this Grand Lodge, to the several Grand Lodges of the United States, Canada, Nova Scotia and Texas.

WM. P. MELLEN,
GEO. H. GRAY,
JNO. LACY.

A.

WHEREAS, It appears that the charters of certain Lodges, under the jurisdiction of the M. W. Grand Lodge of New York have been annulled and the members thereof expelled from the benefits of Masonry, and that the said Subordinate Lodges and members have formed a clandestine Grand Lodge under the name of St. John's Grand Lodge and have granted charters to Subordinate Lodges, in defiance of the first authority of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York; and,

WHEREAS, Such conduct is in violation of the regulations of Masonry, and subversive of all order and harmony:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of New York be sustained in its lawful proceedings, and that all intercourse with the aforesaid expelled Masons and their clandestine Grand Lodge, be studiously guarded against and avoided, and that the Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be hereby thereto instructed; and further, that the Grand Secretary cause to be published in connection with the list of rejections, suspensions and expulsions, now required, the names of the Subordinate Lodges working under the self-styled St. John's Grand Lodge, and the names of all the members of the same

B.

Resolved, That no Subordinate Lodges working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall confer the degree of Fellow Craft or Master Mason upon any brother, who has been initiated in any other Lodge in the United States, unless the brother so applying shall produce a recommendation or a certificate of good standing from the Lodge in which he was admitted or initiated.

The above report, on motion of Bro. Mellen, was received and agreed to; and the resolutions appended were adopted.

Bros. John M. Scanland and J. M. Duffield, Representatives from Grand Gulf Lodge, U. D., appeared, presented their credentials and took their seats. The returns of said Lodge together with their credentials, were referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges in course.

On motion, the Grand Master added Bro. D. S. Jennings to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. G. H. Gray, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, whose duty it shall be to examine and inquire into the present general condition of the Grand Lodge, and that they may have access to the reports of such committees as they may

deem necessary to enable them to obtain the information necessary to make a satisfactory report, and that they report as soon as practicable.

Bro. N. S. Pfister presented his credentials and took his seat as the representative of Columbus Lodge, No. 5, and presented also his credentials as proxy of Richard D. Barker, Junior Warden of Macon Lodge, U. D. The credentials and returns of said Lodges were referred in course to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. John Mixon, representative from Monroe Lodge, U. D., presented his credentials, returns of said Lodge, By-Laws and dispensation, which were referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. D. J. White presented returns of Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, and credentials as proxy of G. Whightman, W. M. of said Lodge. Referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The petition of Bro. Wm. K. Day, a Past Master and member of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, and that of Leonard Edmonson of Raymond Lodge, No. 21, for membership, were presented, and the petitioners were elected members of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. T. J. Harper was added to the committee appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication, for the purpose of revising the Constitution.

A letter addressed to the Grand Lecturer, from J. R. Russel was presented and referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. D. S. Jennings, it was

Resolved, That it is expedient to amend the 1st section of the 1st article of the Constitution, and that a committee of three be appointed to report an amendment thereto.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. Harper, Jennings and Catching.

On motion of Bro. P. S. Mitchell,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's Books and Accounts, be requested to inquire what kind of money was received for rents and other dues to the Grand Lodge—if below par, what discounts were paid in the disbursement of same, and if in specie, what premium was obtained or whether it was paid out at par.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till to-morrow at 10 o'clock A.M.

WEDNESDAY, February 5th—10 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

Bros. Thomas D. Jeffres and Thos. T. Hogg, representatives from Washington Lodge, No. 3, presented their credentials and took their seats.

Bro. Geo. A. Wilson, representative from Holly Springs Lodge, No. 35, presented his credentials and took his seat.

Bro. Jennings offered the following resolution which, on motion, was laid upon the table:

Resolved, That Pearl Lodge, No. 23, be allowed further time, till next Grand Annual Communication, to pay its arrearages due to the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Thos. P. Slade, representative from Leake Lodge, No. 17, appeared, presented his credentials and took his seat.

A communication addressed to the Grand Secretary, from Bro. Wm. L. Speed, a member of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, was read and, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Complaints and Grievances.

The Committee on Unfinished Business made the following report :

The Committee on Unfinished Business beg leave to report the following as the result of their labors, as will appear by reference to the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge, for the year 1839, on the following pages, to-wit :

Page 7. A resolution creating a committee to examine the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, etc.

Page 9. The unfinished report of the committee on the building.

Page 9. An amendment to section 3, article 3, of the Constitution, which was laid on the table, till this Grand Annual Communication.

Page 11. The case of Bro. Gresham, which was laid over till the 3d day of this Communication. The documents relating thereto, will accompany this report, having been furnished this Committee by the Grand Secretary.

Your Committee, in addition to the unfinished business, would beg leave to call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the following resolutions, which may be found in the printed proceedings of the last Grand Communication, on the following pages, to-wit :

Page 8. A resolution instructing the Grand Secretary to furnish a list of the members of the Grand Lodge.

Page 16. A resolution requiring the Grand Secretary to insert annually in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, a list of the Lodges composing each Masonic District in numerical order, etc.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. W. VANNATTA,
J. M. DUFFIELD,
DAVID JEWITT.

The report was received and agreed to; and the Committee was, on motion, discharged.

The Committee appointed to report an amendment to the 1st section of the 1st article of the Constitution, report as an addition to said section, the following words : "*provided*, no member of the Grand Lodge shall be entitled to vote therein but as the representative of a Subordinate Lodge, except the presiding officer, the Grand Lodge, for the time being, who shall be permitted to vote, as such presiding officer, in cases of a tie on any question raised in the Grand Lodge, and no one shall represent any Subordinate Lodge who has not taken the degree of a Past Master.

DUDLEY S. JENNINGS,
THOS. J. HARPER,
THOS. J. CATCHINGS.

On motion of Bro. Jennings, the above report was received and adopted.

The R. W. Grand Secretary, J. M. Hubbard, made his report, which on motion, was received and agreed to :

The undersigned Grand Secretary begs leave to report : That in discharging the duties in this office he has availed himself of the assistance granted by the last Grand Lodge, and been enabled to accomplish all the ordinary business of the Grand Lodge with corresponding despatch.

In accordance with the proceedings of the last Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary caused three hundred copies of the proceedings of that Grand Lodge, to be printed, of which he caused four copies to be distributed to each Subordinate Lodge, and also one copy to each Grand Lodge in the United States ; one to Canada and one to the Grand Lodge of Ireland.

The Grand Secretary regrets to announce to this Grand Lodge, that owing to several causes it has been found impossible to furnish an accurate list of all the members of this Grand Lodge as required by amendatory resolution of this last Grand Lodge.

The resolution submitted by Bro. G. H. Gray, of the last Grand Lodge, requiring the Grand Secretary to report, by copying from the Communications of all the Grand Lodges of the United States of America, all the rejections, suspensions and expulsions, contained therein, it was found impossible to carry into effect at the time of publication of the proceedings of the last Grand Lodge, none of such foreign Communications having at that time been received.

The Grand Secretary has diligently examined the records of the Grand Lodge in reference to the resolution offered by Bro. G. H. Gray, of the last Grand Lodge, requiring the Grand Secretary to insert annually in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, a list of the Lodges comprising each Masonic District in numerical order, etc. The Grand Secretary would suggest the propriety of appointing a committee for the purpose of inquiring into the situation of the several Districts, if there be any such defined, and report to this Grand Lodge; as the Grand Secretary finds it exceedingly perplexing, if not impossible to determine them.

In pursuance of a resolution of the last Grand Lodge, a charter has been issued to Ancient York Lodge, then under dispensation; the 1st D. D. Grand Master having made a favorable report of their acts as required by the resolution.

Dispensations have also been granted to the brethren at Macon, Livingston, Tippah, Yazoo, Monroe, Grand Gulf, Shady Grove and Ripley.

The revenue arising from the rents of the basement story of the Masonic Hall during the last year realized the anticipation entertained at the last Grand Annual Communication. It was found necessary to abate a portion of the former rent in order to secure the present occupant as a permanent renter. The west half of the basement story having been fitted up for a school room, and moreover, having no chimney or fireplace, did not meet with the views of any person desiring to rent, except for one single quarter; it has recently undergone alterations and improvements, which better fit it for renting at a reasonable price. The probable rent arising from the rents this year, will be \$650.

Rev. Mr. Hodgeman's note of hand for \$264 66, past due, has not been collected, and it is not probable that collection will soon be made in consequence of his inability to pay.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN M. HUBBARD, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary's account current showed that the receipts of the year were \$1903 60, of which \$712 00 was in "Brandon money," and had been, or would be, returned to the Lodges remitting it. Balance on hand, \$24 82.

The Grand Lecturer presented the following report:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and Right Worshipful Grand Wardens and Members of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The subscriber having been appointed at the last Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, a Grand Lecturer, begs leave to submit the following report: That in the prosecution of this important trust committed to him he visited all the Lodges in the State, in the following order, viz:

Pearl Lodge, No. 23, held at Jackson, on the 4th March, 1839. This Lodge is very respectable, working within the Ancient Land Marks of the Order; harmony and good will prevail, though the Lodge is in some degree deficient in Masonic light. Thence to Paulding Lodge under dispensation, on the 30th March, where he found unanimity and harmony prevailing, but a great want of practical knowledge. Thence to Coleman Lodge, at Brandon, on the 8th April. This Lodge continues to flourish under good discipline, and may be taken as a standard by other Lodges. Thence to Vicksburg, where he met Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, and Ancient York, No. 38, on the 18th April, remaining nine days. Both these Lodges are in a flourishing condition, under good discipline, and have made considerable proficiency. Thence to Gallatin Lodge, No. 25, on the 1st June. Here he found perfect harmony and good

feeling, though a want of experience. Thence to Quitman Lodge, No. 18, at Georgetown, on the 7th June. In this Lodge, harmony and good feeling has been restored, and there is much evident improvement in the working department. Thence to Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, at Williamsburg, on the 18th June. This Lodge is much in want of Masonic light, and much confusion and discord exists at present. Thence to Monroe Lodge, U. D., in Perry county, on the 16th June. This is a very young Lodge, wanting in Masonic light and Lodge government, nevertheless united in harmony and good feeling. Thence to Eastern Star Lodge, No. 27. This Lodge, though wanting Masonic information, exhibits in an eminent degree, those traits which characterize the upright man and Mason. Thence to Liberty Lodge, No. 37, on the 27th June. This Lodge still needs instruction, but continues advancing under the good feeling and harmony which prevail. Thence to Natchez, where he met the members of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, and Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, united. These Lodges continue to merit the distinction of being considered the standard of Masonic perfection in the State. Thence to Hiram Lodge, No. 9, at Washington, on the 8th July. In this Lodge there is a want of uniformity in the working department, yet good feeling and harmony prevail. Thence to Grand Gulf, U. D., on the 14th July. This Lodge was organized by the 1st D. D. Grand Master and the subscriber, and, during four days' work, much zeal and an earnest desire for improvement were manifested. Thence to Washington Lodge, No. 3, at Port Gibson, on the 19th July. Here much zeal is manifested for the good of the Institution—but Masonic information is needed. Harmony and good feeling prevail. Thence to Fitz Lodge, No. 30, at Madisonville, on the 20th August. This Lodge is not so well supported as formerly, owing in a great measure to the removal of a number of the brethren to other parts of the State, and discipline is much needed. Thence to Canton Lodge, No. 28, on the 24th August. This Lodge is in a very flourishing state, having made considerable proficiency—working within the Ancient Land Marks and evincing throughout an ardent desire for Masonic knowledge and living in perfect harmony. Thence to Yazoo City Lodge, U. D., on the 31st August. This Lodge is yet young and consequently much in need of Masonic information. Great zeal is manifested and harmony and good feeling prevail. Thence to Leake Lodge, No. 17, at Benton, on the 5th September. This Lodge is still in want of much Masonic information, at the same time working with great zeal and harmony. Thence to Lexington, No. 24, on the 9th September. This Lodge, keeping in view the Ancient Gand Marks, is improving in Masonic knowledge, These noble traits which characterize the upright man and Mason are here discernable. Thence to Carrollton Lodge, No. 36, on the 15th September. This Lodge continues to flourish, improving in discipline—striving with unabated ardor to obtain further light. Thence to Grenada Lodge, No. 31, on the 17th September. This Lodge in working comes nearer the standard than formerly, whilst their zeal and assiduity continue unabated. Thence to Oxford Lodge, No. 33, on the 21st September. This Lodge maintains its former character as regards morality, and though Masonic information is still needed, the desire for improvement is undiminished. Thence to Holly Springs Lodge, No. 35, on the 25th September. This Lodge continues to work up to the standard whilst the greatest unanimity and brotherly love prevail. Thence to Pontotoc Lodge, U. D., on the 30th September, where the necessary instructions were given, but for the want of a charter or a renewed dispensation no Lodge was opened. The utmost harmony and good will prevailed. Thence to Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, on the 5th October. This Lodge is in a flourishing condition, having made great advancement in the working department, whilst all is harmony and peace. Thence to Columbus Lodge, No. 5, on the 13th October. This Lodge in point of discipline, unanimity and every trait which distinguishes a well-governed Lodge, stands unrivalled in the State. Thence to Macon Lodge, U. D. This is a very young Lodge, consequently cannot be expected to have made much proficiency in the work. The members are generally of good moral habits and manifest a desire to improve themselves in Masonry. Thence to Clinton Lodge, No. 16, on the 14th November. This Lodge continues to flourish, working

strictly within the Ancient Land Marks, harmony and good will prevailing. Thence to Raymond Lodge, No. 21, on the 2d December. This Lodge has made considerable improvement in the working department, and the zeal and unanimity which here prevail, render it conspicuous among the other Lodges.

The undersigned, in conclusion, begs leave to state that, from a sense of duty, as an officer of the Grand Lodge, he has represented the Lodges as he found them with regard to their standing and improvement; and although it will be seen that some of them are not flattered by this report, yet he feels anxious that none of them will impute to him improper motives for his candor. In a former report he spoke of members of the fraternity generally as possessing those excellent traits of character, which should ever attach to those who belong to our order, and of the courtesy and respect with which he was received. He would do great injustice to them and his own feelings, were he not to report it. This was the case without distinction of Lodges, and it gives him unaffected pleasure to bear testimony, from actual observation, of the flourishing condition of Masonry throughout the State, whilst the pressure of the times has had a blighting influence upon almost every other institution, and every other class of men, Freemasonry stands forth arrayed in all her freshness and strength. Like an evergreen, inured to the severest weather, she looks not less lovely when the cold, bleak winter rages around, than in the vernal season, when NATURE arrays herself in her most beautiful robes. Under these circumstances, the task assigned the Grand Lecturer, though attended with much labor, has been nevertheless, a pleasing employment; and although he does not flatter himself that he has deserved the kind attention which has been so uniformly extended to him by the Lodges, the individual members and their families, yet he does flatter himself that his labor will redound to the good of Masonry, for it will be seen that he has visited some Lodges under dispensation, which otherwise would have been very deficient in the working part at least. He further remarks that, it has been an object with him, during the past Masonic year, to make the Lodges acquainted with the practical parts of Masonry, believing that uniformity in working could not be otherwise effected. That ours is, as all other great sciences, a progressive one, that much of the beauty and harmony of the Institution will depend upon its being kept essentially within the "Landmarks" by carefully guarding against innovation; that as new Lodges are springing up composed in part of members from all sections of the Union, it must of course be necessary to see that this uniformity of work be strictly attended. The undersigned then, whilst he acknowledges with gratitude, the liberal compensation attached to his humble services, conceives himself far more richly compensated by the consciousness he feels from having discharged faithfully and zealously the duties assigned him by the Grand Lodge, and of his having contributed his mite to the welfare of that Institution, which, of all others, is nearest and dearest to his heart.

DAVID J. WHITE,
G. L. of the G. L. S. M.

After the reading of the foregoing report, on motion of Bro. Coleman, it was *Resolved*, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Bro. David J. White, Grand Lecturer, for the faithful manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office for the last two years.

On motion of Bro. Stevens,

Resolved, That there be elected a Grand Lecturer for the ensuing year, whose duty it shall be to visit all the Subordinate Lodges and discharge his duty as such, for which he shall receive a compensation of one thousand dollars.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until ten o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

THURSDAY, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Bro. David J. White presented a petition for the establishment of a new Lodge, to be called Oakland, which was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals made the following report :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals beg leave to report that the following cases have been referred to them for action, viz :

1st. The appeal of Benjamin Gresham, late a member of Quitman Lodge, No. 18.

2d. The appeal of J. L. Jolly.

3d. The petition of Alfred T. Moore, late a member of Benjamin Franklin Lodge, No. 11, (now dormant.)

4th. A communication from the Secretary of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34.

It will be seen by reference to the minutes of the last annual Grand Communication, that the case of Benj. Gresham was laid over until the third day of the then, next Annual Communication, and that the Right Worshipful Grand Secretary was required to give notice both to Quitman Lodge, No. 18, and the appellant, to appear with the papers pertaining thereto. It does not appear from any papers in the case, that notice was given or returned; nor have the parties, or either of them, appeared in person or by proxy.

The second case, that of the appeal of J. L. Jolly, comes before your committee in a more actionable form, being accompanied by the evidence upon which the Subordinate Lodge seems to have based its decision, and the evidence derived pertinent to the defence, besides other documents which shed light on some parts of the case which otherwise would be intricate. Your committee do not feel authorized, nor are they disposed to impugn the motives of the Lodge in passing upon the case of the appellant; but from the fact, that some of the most influential members of said Lodge, among which is the Worshipful Master, have expressed their full conviction that the Lodge acted erroneously in expelling the appellant and declaring unequivocally, that he should of right be restored; and, further, from the high order of evidence produced in his favor, your committee feel warranted in saying, the action of the Subordinate Lodge was, to say the least, precipitate, and not marked with that cautious circumspection and delicacy which are due to a transaction of so much moment to a brother and to the character of our order, nor do they feel the least hesitancy in recommending the restoration of the appellant.

In the case of Bro. A. T. Moore, no obstacle is presented to your committee which should deprive him of the privileges of Masonry. It seems to your committee that no return has been made of the books and papers of the Lodge of which the petitioner was a member, to the Grand Lodge, in absence of which your committee have to rely upon the facts set forth in the petition itself, sustained by an account of the agent of said petition. By these it is made satisfactorily to appear to your committee that the money collected by him as Secretary of that Lodge, the non-payment over of which was the cause of his suspension, has been fully paid over to the said Lodge and to the Building Committee of the Grand Masonic Hall, the legitimate objects for which it was collected. Superadded to which is the high standing and moral worth of Bro. Moore, which of themselves afforded the surest guarantee against the possibility of his wilfully or intentionally doing aught to the detriment of Masonry.

The communication from the Secretary of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, discloses facts of such a character, as, in the opinion of your committee, call for the interposition of the Grand Lodge. This communication appears to have been dictated by the best feelings for the welfare of the institution and the facts therein set forth are corroborated, not only by the report of the Grand Lecturer, but by statements made to your committee by brethren of good standing.

Having bestowed upon these two questions respectively, that attention which appears to be due to their importance, your committee most respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, viz :

Resolved, That the appeal of Benj. Gresham be dismissed.

Resolved, That the sentence of expulsion passed upon Bro. J. L. Jolly, late a member of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, by said Lodge, be reversed, and that Bro. Jolly be restored to all the benefits of Masonry, to which he was before entitled.

Resolved, That Bro. Alfred T. Moore, formerly a member of Benj. Franklin Lodge, No. 11, (now dormant,) be restored to all the Masonic privileges he enjoyed previous to his suspension.

Resolved, That a citation be immediately issued from the Grand Lodge, directed to the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and Brethren of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, returnable within ninety days from its issuance, requiring them to show cause, if any they can, why, for the allegations set forth in the communications above referred to, a certified copy of which shall accompany the citation, they should not then surrender their charter; and that should said Lodge fail to appear in obedience to said citation, it shall thenceforth be suspended from working as such until the next annual Grand Communication, when the case shall be subject to the further action of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the R. W. Grand Secretary be required to transmit, by mail or otherwise, to the parties interested, a certified copy of the resolutions relating to them respectively.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. H. JOHNSON,
HENRY BOYER.

On motion of Bro. Johnson, the report was received and agreed to, and the resolutions approved and adopted.

The Building Committee made a report, which, on motion, was ordered to lie upon the table till the Grand Treasurer made his report and renders his account current.

The Standing Committee on the Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's Books and Accounts, made the following report, which was, on motion, referred to the Committee on the state of the Grand Lodge.

The committee appointed to examine the Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's Books and Accounts, beg leave to report:

That after diligent examination of the Secretary's account current for the last year, they find the same to be generally correct, showing a balance in his hands of twenty-four dollars and eighty-two cents. They find, however, that the Secretary has credited himself by forty dollars, paid to an assisting Secretary, and thirty-five dollars to E. C. Hyde for recording, which your committee believe to be contrary to law. If there is any By-Law authorizing these expenditures your committee have not been able to discern it in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

The Secretary reports that Dispensations have been granted to eight Lodges during the past year, and he has credited himself by the regular fee of ten dollars each on seven of these Dispensations, although from a further examination of his account, it appears that only five of them have been paid for. Your committee believe that the Grand Secretary should stand charged with ninety dollars for these Dispensations not entered as paid for in his account, and be credited by his fee of ten dollars on the last of the eight Dispensations.

Your committee has been informed by the Grand Treasurer, that he has kept no books since he has come into office. This negligence on the part of the Treasurer should not be continued inasmuch as his and the Secretary's books, if properly kept, would act as a mutual check and prevent the possibility of mistakes. It is necessary here to remark that it is highly improper for the Secretary to disburse the monies of the Lodge. Disbursements should be made by the Treasurer alone, into whose hands the Secretary should pay all monies and take his receipt for the same. This remark is made on account of the committee discovering from the Secretary's account current that he has

been in the habit of making disbursements, instead of paying the monies into the hands of the Treasurer, who is alone authorized to receive it and pay it out to the order of the Worshipful Master, with the consent of the Lodge. In obedience to a resolution of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge marked "A" your committee addressed a note of enquiry to the Grand Treasurer, a copy of which is here annexed and marked "B." A similar note was addressed to the Grand Secretary, from whom we have received no reply. From the Treasurer a very polite and satisfactory answer was received, which is annexed, marked "C." From this it appears that the Treasurer has never received any specie, nor funds convertible into specie at par.

A statement from Bro. Wren, Postmaster at this place, has been placed in our hands, from which it appears that the Grand Secretary has received for rent, from the Postoffice, during the last year, four hundred and forty dollars in specie, which is the only information your Committee have in relation to the kind of funds received by the Secretary. The statement of Bro. Wren is here annexed, marked "D." How this specie was disbursed, your Committee cannot state, as they have no documents in their possession showing how it was disposed of.

Your Committee find the books of the Secretary badly kept, having no index and no account opened by Bro. Hubbard for the year 1839, showing the amount of money received by the Secretary, and handed over to the Treasurer.

An account current which your Committee find to be correct, has been handed them by the Treasurer, from which it appears that there is a balance in his hands of two hundred and fifty-three dollars and twenty-one cents.

Your Committee cannot conclude their report without expressing their decided disapprobation in relation to the passive or wilful neglect of the Grand Secretary to return an answer to their note addressed to him, the wording of which is precisely the same as that addressed to the Grand Treasurer and marked "B."

It will therefore evidently appear that your Committee cannot furnish the desired information in obedience to the resolution, marked "A."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES A. STEVENS,
THOS. J. HARPER,
THOS. J. CATCHING.

A.

Resolved, That the Committee on the Secretary's and Treasurer's Books and Accounts, be requested to enquire what kind of money was received for rent and other dues to the Grand Lodge; if below par, what discounts were paid in the disbursement of the same; and if in specie, what premium was obtained, or whether it was paid out at par.

B.

Jno. R. Wells, Grand Treasurer :

Agreeably to resolution of this Most Worshipful Grand Lodge passed this day, we beg leave to request you to furnish us with any information you may possess as to what kind of money has been received since the last annual meeting of the Grand Lodge, for rents and other dues—if below par, what discount was paid in the disbursement of the same—and if specie, what premium was obtained, or otherwise, if it was paid out at par?

Yours, fraternally,

J. A. STEVENS,
THOS. J. CATCHING,
THOS. J. HARPER,
Com. on G. S. and G. T. Books.

Natchez, February 4, 1840.

C.

Bros. J. A. Stevens, Thos. J. Catchings and Thos. J. Harper :

GENTLEMEN: Your note of the 4th inst., was handed to me this morning

requesting information as to what kind of money has been received and paid out by the Grand Treasurer.

In answer I will state that I have not received during the two last years, one dollar in silver or gold, or the note of any bank convertible into specie at par.

A large portion of the funds I have received has been in Brandon money, of which, one hundred dollars I have on hand yet. I kept the funds in the Planters' Bank generally, to the Teller of which I must refer you for the particular class deposited, which was in all cases the same money received by the Grand Treasurer. At times, receiving orders on the Treasury, I paid out of my pocket the funds received, which always what has been termed Branch paper and Brandon.

In further evidence of this fact I beg to refer to the Grand Secretary, as to what kind of money he has always paid over to me; also to Thos. Rose, W. W. Wilkins, and Geo. Snyder, who were the mechanics employed to work on the Lodge, and also to D. J. White, Grand Lecturer. These gentlemen have all been paid money by me, and had I at any time offered them different funds from what I had received, they would have reported me to the Grand Master.

The rent of the Postoffice, I have always understood was at \$40 per month in specie; whether correct, as such or not I do not know, but must refer to the Grand Secretary and the Postmaster, Bro. Wren.

In conclusion I will hold myself ready to give any, and all other information that is in my power to give, that I may have omitted here.

Yours, fraternally,

JOHN R. WELLS, Grand Treasurer.

D.

The Postmaster at Natchez has paid forty dollars a month for two rooms on the ground floor of the Grand Masonic Lodge, from the 1st day of January, 1838, to the last day of August, 1839, and thirty dollars a month from the first day of September, 1839, till the last day of December, 1839, amounting in the whole to \$920 00. The above moneys have been paid to Dr. Jno. M. Hubbard, quarterly, in specie, which can be seen by a reference to his receipts now in my possession.

WOODSON WREN.

February 4, 1840.

On motion of Bro. Boyer,

resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to report a list of Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and define the limits of each Masonic District, and that the Grand Secretary be excused from the performance of that duty.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. Catching, Gray and Johnson, on said committee.

A claim was presented by the M. W. Grand Master, for J. R. Perkins, for sundries furnished Grand Steward's department in 1837, and referred to the Committee on Grand Steward and Tyler's Account.

On motion of Bro. Coleman,

resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be and he is hereby authorized to dispose of all the uncurrent funds now on hand, to the best advantage, either in discharge of debts now unpaid or for current funds.

A petition was presented by Bro. Geo. A. Wilson, for a new Lodge, to be established at Salem, Tippah county, and on motion of Bro. Wilson, the Grand Secretary was instructed to issue a dispensation to the petitioners.

On motion of Bro. Catching,

resolved, That at the Grand Lodge will proceed to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, at 7 o'clock P. M.

On motion of Bro. Catching, the Grand Lodge adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

THURSDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Grand Treasurer's account showed his receipts to have been \$2334 70; disbursements, \$2090 99; balance in Grand Treasury, \$253 71—\$127 50 was lost to the Grand Lodge, being the discount upon uncurrent funds.

On motion of Bro. Harper, Bro. G. H. Gray was added to the Committee on the Constitution, and further time given to said Committee to report.

On motion of Bro. Mellen, the report of the Building Committee was called from the table.

To the M. W. Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

Your Committee appointed to have the necessary repairs to the Hall done, the yard enclosed, cistern built, etc., beg leave to report, that they have performed the duty assigned them, by having a good cistern made, the yard enclosed with a good brick wall, a new roof and cornice in front, the plastering of the house repaired throughout; and all necessary repairs, in the opinion of your Committee, are completed, and below is a statement of the accounts for these repairs, etc., which remain unpaid:

Bro. Rose's bill rendered.....	\$667 25
Bro. Rose's bill rendered.....	55 25
Bro. E. Profilet's bill rendered.....	41 25
Bro. S. C. Scott's bill rendered.....	15 00
Bro. W. W. Wilkin's bill rendered.....	36 72
Bro. Wm. Snyder's bill rendered.....	10 00
Bro. Walker & Collins' bill rendered.....	29 81
Total.....	\$855 31

Your Committee recommend that the above accounts be paid, and your Committee discharged. JNO. R. WELLS, Chairman.

The report was then agreed to, and the several accounts reported were ordered to be paid out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and the Committee discharged.

WHEREAS, The charges and specifications against Bro. G. D. Gere, have not been forwarded to Eastern Star Lodge by the Grand Secretary; be it therefore,

Resolved, That Eastern Star Lodge, No. 27, be discharged from further consideration of the matter.

Bro. P. L. Mitchell, from Committee to whom was referred the claims of J. R. Perkins, offered the following resolution, which, upon the question being taken, was carried in the affirmative.

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master be requested to examine the account of Bro. Perkins, and if he should find it correct he is hereby empowered to draw upon the Treasury, for the amount he may think fit.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report:

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges begs leave to report, that of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, returns have been received from the following, viz:

Harmony, No. 1; Andrew Jackson, No. 2; Washington, No. 3; Columbus, No. 5; Hiram, No. 9; Clinton, No. 16; Leake, No. 17; Quitman, No. 18; Raymond, No. 21; Pearl Lodge, No. 23; Lexington, No. 24; Gallatin, No. 25; Vicksburg, No. 26; Eastern Star, No. 27; Canton, No. 28; Coleman, No. 29; Aberdeen, No. 32; Olive Branch, No. 34; Holly Springs, No. 35; Carroll-

ton, No. 36; Liberty, No. 37; Ancient York, No. 38; Macon, U. D.; Monroe, U. D.; Yazoo, U. D.; Shady Grove, U. D.; Grand Gulf, U. D.

Returns have been received from Carrollton, No. 36; Columbus, No. 5, and Holly Springs, No. 35, for the year 1838, which arrived subsequent to the last Grand Annual Communication.

The following named Lodges have made no returns, or they have not yet been received, viz:

Grenada Lodge, No. 31; Fitz Lodge, No. 30; Oxford Lodge, No. 33; Paulding, U. D.; Lexington, U. D.; Tuscahoma, U. D.; Pontotoc, U. D.

Your Committee, on careful investigation of the several returns, have discovered that the following named Lodges, although they have adhered to the prescribed form, have omitted the charges for membership, when the parties named have received the three degrees of Masonry, and in some instances, when the parties were passed and raised, viz: Harmony, No. 1; Washington, No. 3; Columbus, No. 5; Lexington, No. 24; Canton, No. 28; Pearl, No. 23; Olive Branch, No. 34; Aberdeen, No. 32; Ancient York, No. 38; Shady Grove, U. D.; Macon, U. D. and Grand Gulf, U. D.

A communication was handed your Committee from Bro. Jas. R. Russell, addressed to Bro. D. J. White, stating, that owing to the removal of the late Treasurer of Fitz Lodge, No. 30, to Texas, leaving the books and accounts of the Lodge in a confused state, they were incapacitated for making out at present a regular return. This, together with the expense of erecting a new Masonic Hall, precludes the possibility on their part, of complying with the requisitions of the Grand Lodge. Therefore, your Committee on their behalf, would respectfully suggest the adoption of the following resolution, to-wit:

Resolved, That Fitz Lodge, No. 30, have till next Grand Annual Communication to send in their returns and pay their dues.

The By-Laws of the following Lodges have been examined by your Committee with that care which their importance demands, and they believe them to be within the ancient land-marks of Masonry, viz: Carrollton, No. 36, Canton, No. 28, Grand Gulf, U. D., Macon, U. D., and Shady Grove, U. D.

Your Committee further represent, that as many of the Subordinate Lodges are in the practice of initiating two or more candidates in the first degree of Masonry at one and the same time, which, in the opinion of your Committee, is contrary to all ancient usage, they therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution, to-wit:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge requires and strictly enjoins upon the Subordinate Lodges within its jurisdiction, from and after the passage of this resolution, that they do not under any pretext whatever, be the emergency of the case ever so urgent, confer the First Degree on more than one candidate (in the working part) at a time.

To the following named Lodges, under dispensation, your Committee would recommend that they be furnished with charters at the earliest convenience of your Grand Secretary, viz: Macon, Monroe, Yazoo, Shady Grove and Grand Gulf Lodges.

Inasmuch as the following specified Lodges, under dispensation, have not as yet brought in their annual returns; they recommend that their Dispensations be extended to them till the 1st of June, next, to make such returns and pay their dues, and, in the event of their non-compliance with this requisition, it shall be the duty of the District Deputy Grand Master, for the District in which such defaulting Lodge may be situate, to demand of said Lodge their Dispensation, jewels, furniture and effects, to-wit: of Paulding, Livingston, Tuscahoma and Pontotoc Lodges.

Your Committee have just received the returns of Grenada Lodge, No. 31; have duly examined the same and found them made out in the prescribed form and correct, with the exception of one item, to-wit: One charge made for membership for Bro. W. H. Curtis, who is reported to have been passed 12th February, 1839, and raised 13th July, of the same year, which error has been cor-

corrected by your Committee, as also, all others in the returns heretofore referred to in this report.

WHEREAS, It has been reported to this Committee by Bro. S. H. Johnson, representative of Gallatin Lodge, No. 35, that the amount of six dollars has been received by the Grand Secretary through mistake, from the said Lodge; they recommend the adoption of the following resolution;

Resolved, That the sum of six dollars be refunded to the representative of Gallatin Lodge, Bro. S. H. Johnson, as so much money overpaid by him to the Grand Secretary. All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. P. COLEMAN.

Bro. S. W. Vannatta offered the following amendment to the Constitution, 1st article, 2d section :

Strike out the word "three" and insert the word "nine."

The question being taken on the amendment, it was decided in the affirmative. The amendment therefore lies upon the table till next year, to receive the final action of the Grand Lodge, at the next Grand Annual Communication.

On motion of Bro. A. Wilson,

Resolved, That Holly Springs Lodge, No. 35, be allowed till next Grand Annual Communication, to pay their dues to the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Jennings called up his resolution allowing further time to Pearl Lodge No. 23, to pay their arrearages to the Grand Lodge, and it was adopted with an amendment in form following :

Resolved, That Pearl Lodge, No. 23, have till 1st July next, to pay their arrearages to the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Lacy,

Resolved, That Lexington Lodge, No. 24, have till next Grand Annual Communication, to pay arrearages and dues for the year 1839.

On motion of Bro. Catching, amended by Bro. Boyer,

Resolved, That the Subordinate Lodges, pay their dues in such funds as may have been sent by their Representatives; *Provided*, Such funds are of no less value than the notes of the Mississippi Railroad Company, but that nothing but specie or its equivalent shall be hereafter received.

Bro. Catching, from a Select Committee, made the following report, which was received and agreed to :

The Select Committee appointed to report a list of Subordinate Lodges, and to define the limits of the various Masonic Districts, beg leave to report the following resolutions :

Resolved, That there shall be six Masonic Districts in the State of Mississippi.

That Harmony, Andrew Jackson, Washington, Hiram, and Liberty Lodges shall compose the 1st District.

That Gallatin, Quitman, Olive Branch, Eastern Star, Monroe and Bowie Lodges shall compose the 2d District.

That Vicksburg, Ancient York, Grand Gulf, Raymond, Clinton and Pearl Lodges shall compose the 3d District.

That Canton, Leake, Yazoo, Lexington, and Carrollton Lodges shall compose the 4th District.

That Coleman, Paulding, Macon and Fitz Lodges shall compose the 6th District.

That if any new Lodges shall be formed by Dispensation during the ensuing year, it shall be the duty of the Grand Secretary to attach said new Lodge to some one of the Districts, and inform the Deputy Grand Master for that District of the same.

THOS. J. CATCHING,
S. H. JOHNSON,
G. H. GRAY.

On motion of Bro. Harper,

Resolved, That Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, have till the next Grand Annual Communication, to pay her dues to the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 7 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

The petition of Bro. T. D. Jeffers, of Washington Lodge, No. 3, and J. M. Scanland, of Grand Gulf Lodge, U. D., were presented for membership, and the petitioners were duly elected.

On motion of Bro. Gray,

Resolved, That Clinton Lodge, No. 16, have till next Grand Annual Communication to pay their dues.

On motion of Bro. Burkhalter,

Resolved, That Olive Branch Lodge have till the next Grand Annual Communication, to pay balance of dues.

The Grand Lodge, after a recess of ten minutes, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows:

GEN. JOHN A. QUITMAN	M. W. Grand Master.
ROBERT STEWART, Esq	1st D. D. G. Master.
S. H. JOHNSON, Esq	2d D. D. G. Master.
HON. DUDLEY S. JENNINGS	3d D. D. G. Master.
MR. HASKELL BARRETT	4th D. D. G. Master.
MR. GEO. A. WILSON	5th D. D. G. Master.
W. P. COLEMAN, Esq	6th D. D. G. Master.
DR. THOMAS J. CATCHING	Grand Senior Warden.
DR. THOS. J. HARPER	Grand Junior Warden.
DR. HENRY TOOLEY	Grand Chaplain.
MR. HENRY BOYER	Grand Orator.
DR. JAMES THISTLE	Grand Treasurer.
MR. WM. P. MELLEN	Grand Secretary.
GEN. P. L. MITCHELL	Grand Marshal.
MR. W. W. WILKINS	Grand Sword Bearer.
THOS. FINNEY	Grand Pursuivant.
THOS. ROSE	Grand Steward and Tyler.
DAVID J. WHITE	Grand Lecturer.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 10 o'clock, A. M. Friday.

FRIDAY, February 7th, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion of Bro. Boyer, the installation of Grand Officers elect, shall be the order for 3 o'clock, P. M.

On motion of Bro. Duffield,

Resolved, That upon the transmission of amendments to the Constitution by the Grand Secretary as required by the Constitution, section 11, article 4, to each Subordinate Lodge, it shall be the duty of such Lodge to give the proposed amendment, or amendments, careful consideration, and instruct their delegation as to the vote he shall give in the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Gray,

Resolved, That every Subordinate Lodge, at the stated meeting next preceding the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, shall recommend some brother of respectability and skill, who is a Master of some Lodge, or a regular Past Master, and a resident in the Masonic District in which the Lodge so recommending is situated, as District Deputy Grand Master for the year next ensuing, the said Lodge shall return the name of the person so recommended, with the annual returns to each Grand Annual Communication.

On motion of Bro. Boyer,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary elect be excused from acting upon the Committee upon the state of the Grand Lodge, and three more be added to said Committee.

The Grand Master appointed Bros. Boyer, Duffield and Coleman.

Bro. Vannatta offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That representatives of the Subordinate Lodges be paid out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, — dollars for every thirty miles, going and returning to and from the Grand Lodge, and — dollars for each day's attendance during the session of the Grand Lodge ; *Provided*, That not more than one delegate from such Lodge shall be entitled to compensation ; nor shall the compensation to any delegate exceed the amount of dues actually paid by the Lodge which he may represent.

Bro. Gray moved to strike all out after the word resolved, which motion was lost.

Bro. Boyer moved to fill the blanks with "\$6 00," which motion did not prevail.

Bro. Vannatta moved that they be filled with "\$2 00," which motion was lost, and on motion of Bro. Wilson, the resolution, was indefinitely postponed.

Bro. Boyer called from the table the following resolution, which was laid upon the table at the last Grand Annual Communication :

Resolved, That the 3d section of the 3d article of the Constitution be amended so as to read thus : "The Grand Lodge at each Grand Annual Communication shall have power to fix the fees and contributions to be paid by Subordinate Lodges to this Grand Lodge, for the ensuing year."

And, on motion of Bro. Wilson, the consideration of said resolution was indefinitely postponed.

On motion of Bro. T. White,

Resolved, That no brother, as proxy or otherwise, shall represent more than one Lodge in the Grand Lodge at the same time.

On motion of Bro. Boyer,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause — copies of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge to be printed, and that four copies be sent to each Subordinate Lodge in the State within ninety days, and that he cause to be inserted a list of the members of this Grand Lodge in said proceedings.

On motion of Bro. Stevens, the blank was filled with "300."

On motion of Bro. Wilson,

Resolved, That at all future Grand Annual Communications the Grand Steward and Tyler shall furnish fuel and lights, and shall not receive a compensation for any refreshments, from the Treasury of the Grand Lodge, unless they be specially ordered by the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

FRIDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on the general state of the Grand Lodge made the following report :

The Committee, to whom was referred the resolution of Bro. G. H. Gray, in relation to the condition to the Grand Lodge, beg leave respectfully to represent :

That they have taken into due consideration the said resolution, and are themselves satisfied, and can assure the Grand Lodge, that owing to the magnitude and multiplicity of the business that would necessarily come before them for consideration, they could not make a satisfactory report prior to any probable period for the adjournment of the Grand Lodge.

They therefore ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

S. W. VANNATTA,
HENRY BOYER,
J. M. DUFFIELD,
W. P. COLEMAN,
Committee.

Which report was received and agreed to, and the Committee discharged.

The Grand Officers elect were then installed in Ancient Form, by the late Grand Master, (the M. V. W. Grand Master Quitman and Right Worshipful 4th Dist. D. G. Master Barrett being installed by proxy,) and took their several stations.

On motion, the Grand Lodge then adjourned till the first Monday in February, A. L., 5841, A. D., 1841.

WM. P. MELLEN,
Grand Secretary.

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1841.

NATCHEZ, February 1st, 1841.

PRESENT:

M. W. ROBERT STEWART.....	(Past Grand Master and First D. D. G. M.
R. W. HASKILL BARRETT.....	Fourth D. D. G. M.
GEO. A. WILSON.....	Fifth D. D. G. M.
S. W. VANNATTA.....	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
GEO. H. GRAY.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
W. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
P. L. MITCHELL.....	Grand Marshal.
SAMUEL COTTON.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
PITT THOMAS.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
THOS. ROSE.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.
D. J. WHITE.....	Grand Lecturer.

The following representatives of Subordinate Lodges, appeared, produced their credentials, and took their seats:

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—Wm. P. Mellen.
 Andrew Jackson, No. 2—W. W. Wilkins.
 Clinton, No. 16—Geo. H. Gray.
 Raymond, No. 21—L. Edmondson.
 Lexington, No. 24—Haskell Barrett.
 Vicksburg, No. 26—Pitt Thomas.
 Coleman, No. 29—Wiley R. Parker.
 Olive Branch, No. 34—G. D. Patterson.
 Holly Springs, No. 35—Geo. A. Wilson.
 Ancient York, No. 38—S. W. Vannatta.
 Yazoo, No. 42—James A. Stevens.
 Bowie, U. D.—J. W. Hornsby.

Members—Wm. Cooper, J. R. Hewitt, Samuel Cotton, J. T. Dickey, A. G. Carpenter, Levin Botts, W. K. Day.

The Grand Lodge was opened in due form, in the Third Degree of Masonry.

On petition, J. M. Duffield and John Willis were elected members of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master then appointed the following Standing Committees:

On Foreign Communications—Mellen, Patterson and Cotton.

On Complaints and Appeals—Wilson, Barrett and Wilkins.

On Unfinished Business—Gray, Thomas and Caldwell.

On Subordinate Lodges—Stevens, Duffield and Parker.

On Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Accounts—Mitchell, Cooper and Hewitt.

To Audit the Grand Steward and Tyler's Accounts—Mitchell, Cooper and Hewitt.

The Grand Secretary made his annual report and submitted his account; the latter was referred in course to the Committee on the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Accounts.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The undersigned, in presenting his annual account current, begs leave to report that charters have been issued, in obedience to the orders of the Grand Lodge, to Shady Grove, Grand Gulf, Macon, Yazoo and Monroe Lodges; that Dispensations have been granted to brethren at Salem, Tippah county, by order of the Grand Lodge; to brethren at Meadville, in Franklin county, and to brethren at Middleton, in Carroll county, by the M. W. Grand Master. A Dispensation was prepared by order of the Grand Lodge, for Oakland Lodge, but not having complied with the requisitions of the Grand Lodge, it was not issued. Returns have been received from Oxford Lodge, No. 33, since your last Communication. An application was received in August last, for a new Lodge at Carthage, but the requisitions of the Constitution not having been complied with, no Dispensation was issued. The applicants were notified of the fact, but no reply has been received. A communication was received in July last, from the R. W. Fifth District Deputy Grand Master, George A. Wilson, enclosing a copy of a Dispensation to brethren at Hernando, for a new Lodge. His communication was submitted to the M. W. Grand Master, who, believing that the proceedings were irregular, instructed me to notify R. W. Bro. Wilson of the fact. This was done; a communication from the officers of this new Lodge has been placed in my hands by the M. W. Grand Master, which shows that they have subsequently rectified the errors in their proceedings, but that, unfortunately, the letter containing their petition and fee for Dispensation did not come to hand. The early attention of the Grand Lodge is requested to this subject, as it is desirable that the brethren shall receive a Dispensation without further delay.

The undersigned regrets to state that there have been several expulsions communicated by Subordinate Lodges. An appeal has been made in one case and another may be expected.

The attention of the Grand Lodge is particularly directed to the communication dated "City Hotel, Natchez, 24th January, 1841."

A prospectus for a new work to be entitled the "Portrait Gallery of Eminent American Freemasons, and History of the Masonic Institutions in the United States," has been received from the R. W. James Herring, Esq., Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, with the request that I would present it to the notice of the Grand Lodge, which is cheerfully done—particularly as it not only promises to be a work of great interest to the Mason, but one which will be calculated to remove the prejudices of good men against our order.

Accompanying this communication may be found a list of balances from the ledger. It includes the annual dues of members for 1840, but not those of Subordinate Lodges. Many of these accounts should be balanced by resolution of the Grand Lodge.

The report of the Lottery agents is also laid before the Grand Lodge, so far as received; another report is expected in a day or two.

The Lodge still owes on accounts due last year, about one thousand dollars, including part of bill for printing for 1840.

The receipts for the present year are estimated at, from Lodges and members, about \$2000; from rents, about \$500; total, \$2500. The rooms on Union street

in the basement, are under rent at \$360 per annum, and the western rooms at \$200 per annum.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. P. MELLE, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary's account current showed the receipts for the year to have been \$2325 00, which amount he had paid over to the Grand Treasurer, less \$450 19 returned for his fees and balance on hand. The latter's account current showed his receipts to have been \$2378 81, \$154 of which he had received from the former Grand Treasurer, \$1874 81 from the Grand Secretary, and \$350 in "Brandon," but the source from which it was received is not stated. Balance on hand, \$504 00, mostly in uncurrent funds.

The communication accompanying the Grand Secretary's report, dated at the "City Hotel," was referred, on motion of Bro. Gray, to a Select Committee. The Grand Master appointed on said Committee, Bros. Gray, Vannatta, Wilson and Cotton; and on motion of Bro. Cotton, R. W. Bro. Stewart was added.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Wilson, the communication from Hernando was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Documents "B" and "C" were referred, on motion of Grand Secretary, to Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till Thursday, three o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals, made the following report:

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals beg leave to report: That they have had under consideration the appeal of Thomas Durham, expelled by Lexington Lodge, No. 24; and from the papers and evidence before them, the Committee find nothing requiring the interference of the Grand Lodge, and recommend that the appeal be dismissed and the Committee discharged from the further consideration thereof.

The Committee take pleasure in stating that no other business has come before them.

GEO. A. WILSON,
HASKILL BARRETT,
W. W. WILKINS.

The Committee on Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Accounts, made the following report:

The undersigned, Committee on Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Books and Accounts, respectfully report: That they have examined the same, and find them correct, with the exception of a charge made by the Grand Secretary, for extra services, one hundred dollars, which your Committee think should not be allowed; they are of the opinion, that the amount received by him is fully sufficient to remunerate him for all his services, without extra charge.

The Committee would recommend the adoption of the annexed resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer be, and they are

hereby authorized to close all the open accounts on Grand Secretary's books, which they think there is no prospect of collecting.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

P. L. MITCHELL,
JOHN R. HEWITT,
WM. COOPER.

On motion of Bro. Stevens, the report was received, and on his motion,

Resolved, That the amount of one hundred dollars, charged by the Grand Secretary, for extra services, be allowed him.

The report was then agreed to, and the resolution annexed thereto adopted.

The Committee on Unfinished Business made the following report:

The Committee on Unfinished Business of the last Grand Annual Communication, beg leave to report: That on a careful examination of the minutes of the last Grand Annual Communication, they find the following to be the business remaining unfinished, and propose to be submitted to the consideration of the Grand Communication.

1st. On page 17, printed minutes, the fourth resolution of the Committee on Complaints and Appeals, call for certain requisitions from Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, which, if they have not been complied with, will require further action on the part of the Grand Lodge.

2d. On page 22, we find that further time was granted to the Committee on the Constitution to make report.

3d. On page 25, an amendment to the Constitution was proposed, and ordered to lie over for final action at this Grand Communication.

4th. On page 7, a resolution was adopted in the following words, viz: "That it is expedient to amend the first section of the first article of the Constitution, and that a committee of three be appointed to report an amendment thereto."

On page nine, the Committee reported an amendment, which, on motion, was forthwith received and adopted. This course your Committee considers to be at variance with the mode pointed out in the eleventh section of the fourth article of the Constitution, concerning the manner of amending the Constitution. Your Committee, viewing this resolution as possessing rather a doubtful character in our code of laws, (if, indeed, it should have been admitted to record at all in its present condition,) have thought it proper to bring it forward for the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee, not believing it to be within their province to recommend the adoption of any particular resolution, have confined themselves to the statement herein contained, which they beg leave to submit to the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

G. H. GRAY,
P. THOMAS,
JAMES B. CALDWELL.

On motion of Bro. Duffield, the report was received and laid upon the table.

Bro. Samuel Hart, from Carrollton Lodge, No. 36, appeared, presented his credentials and took his seat.

The Grand Secretary presented credentials as proxy of the Master of Canton Lodge, No. 28, together with the returns from that Lodge. He also presented a petition for a dispensation for a new Lodge at Greensboro', Choctaw county; all of which were referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Gray, from the Select Committee on the Constitution, made a report, which, on motion of Bro. Cotton, was received and agreed to, and Committee discharged:

The committee appointed by virtue of a resolution adopted on the ninth of January, A. D. eighteen hundred and thirty-nine, to-wit: "That a committee of three be appointed by the M.: W.: Grand Master, whose duty it shall be to

examine the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, as now printed; also, the minutes of the proceedings of all the Grand Communications since the adoption of the same, and collect and embody such parts of the Constitution as appear now to be in force, and such resolutions as have been passed since the adoption of the same, and are now in force, and make their report to the next Grand Annual Communication," beg leave now to report: That in performing the duty assigned them, your Committee find that on the twenty-seventh of July, A. D. eighteen hundred and eighteen, a Convention assembled in the City of Natchez, pursuant to a resolution of the Lodges then in existence, which said Convention proceeded to adopt articles for the government of a Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, which were recognized as the Constitution of said Grand Lodge. They find, also, that in eighteen hundred and thirty, said Constitution was reprinted with amendments, and upon a careful comparison of the latter with the original, it is found that but three alterations or amendments had been adopted up to that time, two of which have been since amended; the other remains in force; and inasmuch as the proceedings of all the Communications which have been held since that time, are in the possession of the Committee, and have undergone close examination and scrutiny, they can, with confidence, submit the result of their labors to the Grand Lodge, as containing each and every article and section of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, which is at this time in force. In order to render it more plain and intelligible, a transcript has been made of the Constitution, with marginal notes, by which the year, day of the month, and page of the proceedings can be readily referred to, to ascertain the time of the adoption of any amendment or addition to the Constitution. Your Committee have transcribed all the resolutions that are of a general and permanent nature, which have been adopted by the Grand Lodge since its formation, to which marginal references are also attached.

In the discharge of the duty assigned the Committee, much time and labor has been bestowed in carefully examining all the documents in their possession, and in transcribing such portions as were required by the resolution, which said transcripts accompanying this report are prayed to be considered a part thereof.* All of which is respectfully submitted.

G. H. GRAY,
J. THISTLE,
WM. P. MELLEN,
ROBERT STEWART.

Patrick Lynch, from Benj. Franklin Lodge, U. D., appeared, produced his credentials and took his seat.

The petition of Moses B. Rogers, for dimission as member of the Grand Lodge was received, and the prayer of the petitioner granted.

R. W. Bro. Wilson presented certain resolutions of Holly Springs Lodge, No. 35, in relation to duties of Grand Lecturer, which, on motion of Bro. Duffield, were referred to a select committee of three. Bros. Cooper, Duffield and Lynch were appointed said committee.

The Grand Secretary presented the account of Thos. Rose, for repairs on Masonic Hall, which was referred to Committee on Accounts.

Bro. Stevens offered a resolution in relation to a "Seminary of Learning," and upon question being had thereon, it was lost.

The Committee on Accounts reported the account of Thos. Rose, for eighty-three dollars, for repairs on hall, correct, and recommend its payment; the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Patterson called from the table the report of Committee on Unfinished Business, and, on his motion, it was

* NOTE.—This portion of the report is not printed in the "Extract of the Proceedings."
F. S.

Resolved, That the communication from the Secretary of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, with all the papers, be transferred to Olive Branch Lodge; and that said Lodge be and is hereby authorized to investigate the communication referred to, and determine the same agreeably to justice and the usages of Masonry.

Bro. Gray called up the amendment to the Constitution, proposed by Bro. Vannatta, February, eighteen hundred and forty, page twenty-five, printed proceedings, and moved its adoption; and the vote being taken thereon, it was lost.

On motion of Bro. Patterson,

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, Bro. G. D. Gere is exonerated from unmasonic conduct, in relation to the charges brought against him by the old members of Leaf River Lodge.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Wilson,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will go into the election of officers on to-morrow evening, at three o'clock P. M.

The select committee to whom was referred the resolutions of Holly Springs Lodge, made the following report:

The committee to which was referred a set of resolutions from Holly Springs Lodge, relating to the duties of Grand Lecturer, beg leave respectfully to report: That the series of resolutions which refer to the specification of the reciprocal duties of the Grand Lecturer and the Subordinate Lodges, are neither expedient, proper, nor, perhaps, possible.

That the last resolution, to-wit: That it is expedient for the Grand Lodge to dispense with the office of Grand Lecturer, cannot, from the nature of things, be understandingly reported upon by your committee. Most certainly retrenchment is absolutely necessary. Most certainly, too, Masonic light is absolutely necessary to Masonic Lodges. We cannot assume to say how it should be dispensed. As the Grand Lodge will doubtless be called upon to decide the question of the re-appointment of a Grand Lecturer, as every delegate and member can better judge of the wants and estimate the wishes of the bodies of the fraternity for himself than your committee can do; and as your committee cannot, except in their individual capacities, undertake to form a judgment upon the necessity for the existence of a Grand Lecturer, they beg leave to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

W. COOPER,
J. M. DUFFIELD,
PATRICK LYNCH.

On motion of Bro. Stevens, the report was received and agreed to, and the committee discharged.

R. W. Bro. Mitchell offered the following resolutions, which, on motion of Bro. Duffield, were laid on the table:

Resolved, That the Deputy Grand Masters be recommended to visit each Lodge in their respective districts, at least once in each year, and lecture the same in the three first degrees of Masonry, and that all necessary traveling expenses be refunded them by this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the services of the Grand Lecturer be and they are hereby dispensed with.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till nine o'clock, A. M. to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Representatives from Subordinate Lodges, same as yesterday, with the following additions:

Bro. W. B. Taylor, from Grand Gulf Lodge, No. 41, and Bro. C. R. Precriminski, from Ancient York, No. 38, appeared, produced their credentials, and took their seats.

Bro. C. R. Precriminski was, on petition, duly elected a member of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. G. D. Patterson, of Olive Branch, No. 34, was also, upon petition, duly elected to membership.

A memorial was presented by Bro. Precriminski, from Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, and, on motion of Bro. Duffield, was referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

On motion of Grand Secretary,

Resolved, That in consideration of the loss of the Masonic Hall, with nearly all the jewels and furniture belonging to Hiram Lodge, No. 9, by fire, said Lodge be permitted to pay its dues in Agricultural money.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to furnish said Lodge with a duplicate charter without fee, the original having been destroyed with the Hall.

On motion of Bro. Gray.

Resolved, That Clinton Lodge, No. 16, have until the next annual Communication to pay the dues of said Lodge for the year eighteen hundred and thirty-eight and thirty-nine.

On motion of Bro. Wilson,

Resolved, That Holly Springs Lodge, No. 35, be allowed until the next Annual Communication to pay a portion of its dues for the years eighteen hundred and thirty-eight and thirty-nine, for which it is arrears to the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Hewitt,

Resolved, That the Grand Steward of this Grand Lodge be authorized and required to furnish refreshments, etc., for the members and visitors thereof, this evening, and that the expense be paid by the Grand Lodge.

The accounts of Bros. Wells and Quarterman, and N. N. Spielman, for repairs, were presented by the Grand Secretary, and referred to the Committee on Accounts, who reported the same correct, and that they should be paid. The report was received and agreed to.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report:

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report: That of the Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, returns have been received from the following, viz:

Harmony, No. 1, Andrew Jackson, No. 2, Hiram, No. 9, Clinton, No. 16, Raymond, No. 21, Lexington, No. 24, Vicksburg, No. 26, Canton, No. 28, Coleman, No. 29, Fitz, No. 30, Grenada, No. 31, Oxford, No. 33, Olive Branch, No. 34, Holly Springs, No. 35, Carrollton, No. 36, Grand Gulf No. 41, Yazoo, No. 42, Bowie, U. D., Benj. Franklin, U. D., Ripley, U. D.

The following named Lodges have not as yet made returns, or they have not yet been received:

Washington, No. 3, Columbus, No. 5, Leake, No. 17, Quitman, No. 18, Pearl, No. 23, Gallatin, No. 25, Eastern Star, No. 27, Aberdeen, No. 32, Liberty, No. 37, Monroe, No. 39, Shady Grove, No. 43, Salem, U. D., Paulding, U. D., Tuscahoma, U. D., Pontotoc, U. D., Pythagoras, U. D.

The Committee carefully examined the returns from the different Lodges, and corrected the errors which occurred in some of them. It might not be amiss to recommend to the delegates from these Lodges in whose returns errors have appeared, that they bear in mind the occurrence of those errors, ascertain the requisitions of the Grand Lodge clearly, and thus guard their Lodges

against further mistakes and mischarges. The following Lodges are represented :

Harmony, No. 1—Wm. P. Mellen, R. W. Phillips and C. C. Williamson.
 Andrew Jackson, No. 2—W. W. Wilkins.
 Clinton, No. 16—Geo. H. Gray.
 Raymond, No. 21—L. Edmondson.
 Lexington, No. 24—H. Barrett.
 Vicksburg, No. 26—P. Thomas, C. R. Preczriminski.
 Coleman, No. 29—W. R. Parker.
 Olive Branch, No. 34—G. D. Patterson.
 Holly Springs, No. 35.—Geo. A. Wilson.
 Carrollton, No. 36—Samuel Hart.
 Ancient York, No. 38—S. W. Vannatta.
 Grand Gulf, No. 41—W. B. Taylor.
 Yazoo, No. 42—J. A. Stevens.
 Bowie, U. D.—J. W. Hornsby.
 Benj. Franklin, U. D.—P. Lynch.

A proxy was sent to the Grand Secretary from Oxford, No. 33, and one from Canton, No. 28. At the last Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, it was

Resolved, That no brother, as proxy, or otherwise, shall represent more than one Lodge in the Grand Lodge at the same time. Bro. Mellen, the Grand Secretary, already represents his own Lodge, Harmony, No. 1. Your Committee, under the resolution quoted, have, therefore, thrown out his credentials as proxy from Canton, No. 28; and for that, and the additional reason of informality, have rejected his credentials as proxy from Oxford Lodge, No. 33.

Your Committee recommend that charters be granted to the following Lodges, working under dispensation: Ripley, Bowie and Benj. Franklin. The proceedings of Ripley, U. D., were signed by the Master, but the returns were not. This is a venial error in a young Lodge, and is merely mentioned to avoid its recurrence. Your Committee also recommend that a dispensation be granted to Hernando Lodge. It appears that in the summer, certain brethren in the town of Hernando, being desirous of establishing a Lodge there, applied to the R. W. Geo. A. Wilson for a dispensation to work in the three first degrees in Masonry. After consultation with several eminent and worthy brethren, Bro. Wilson, not without reluctance, granted a dispensation; a Lodge was organized, and proceeded to confer the Degrees of Entered Apprentice upon two candidates, and Fellow Craft upon one. The whole proceeding was, doubtless, informal and incorrect. Your Committee being fully satisfied that section first, article third, points to the M. W. Grand Master as the only power competent to grant dispensations. And in any event that might incapacitate the M. W. Grand Master from performing his duties, section nine, of article first, prescribes the mode in which his authority shall descend. It is, therefore, clear that this whole proceeding is erroneous; but, as it arose from misapprehension, and from a zealous wish on the part of R. W. Bro. Wilson to diffuse the benefits of Masonry, and as the brethren who wrought under the dispensation, most assuredly were entirely harmless, your Committee recommend that their work be legalized, and that a dispensation be granted upon payment of their fee. They pray for a charter, and ground their application upon the fact that they sent on the money for a dispensation, through Bro. Wilson, to the Grand Secretary, upon being apprized of their organization. This money has not been received. It is impossible, your Committee believe, in view of all the circumstances, to do more than authorize the issuance of a dispensation.

Fitz Lodge, No. 30, has suspended its charter; its debt to the Grand Lodge amounts to ninety-one dollars. Steps should be taken by the District Deputy Grand Master, to obtain its jewels and furniture.

Your Committee recommend that a dispensation be granted to Greensboro Lodge, recommended by Carrollton, No. 36, whenever the fees are paid. The following Lodges, which have been working under dispensation, have not made

any returns nor applications for charters : Paulding, Tuscahoma, Pontotoc and Pythagoras. The second section of article two of the Constitution, provides, that the brethren to whom dispensations may have been granted during the recess, "shall make application to the Grand Lodge at their next Annual Communication for a charter or warrant; and if such application be not made, or the charter or warrant be not granted by the Grand Lodge, the Lodge erected by such dispensation shall be dismissed, and funds and jewels thereof become the property of the Grand Lodge." Your Committee, however, recommend leniency to them, for these reasons : they are young Lodges, and from the scarcity of Constitutions, want of familiarity with Masonic Law, cannot or ought not to be held amenable as older bodies of this fraternity ; the severity of the season may have prevented many of them from presenting delegates here, and the severity of the pressure for money may have prevented others.

Your Committee recommend that they be allowed until the next Grand Annual Communication to comply with the article of the Constitution first quoted.

For the same reasons, your Committee recommend that these Lodges, which by default, during the two past years have incurred the penalties of section five, article three, be apprised by the Grand Secretary that if they do not comply with the law by the next Annual Communication, its pains will be enforced against them.

Your Committee recommend the approval of the new By-Laws of Yazoo, No. 42; Bowie, U. D.; Ripley, U. D., and Benjamin Franklin, U. D. Your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

WHEREAS, It appears that, by a resolution of Coleman Lodge, No. 29, that fifteen members of said Lodge have left the country, and have not taken a dimitt from said Lodge, nor paid their dues ; therefore,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to make a deduction of fifteen dollars from the amount of dues reported as due from said Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES A. STEVENS,
W. R. PARKER,
J. M. DUFFIELD.

On motion of Bro. Cooper, the report was received and agreed to ; and, on motion of Bro. Duffield, the resolution annexed to the report was adopted.

On motion of Bro. Thomas,

Resolved, That two hundred copies of the Constitution and the resolutions accompanying the report of the Committee on the Constitution, be printed in pamphlet form, and two copies furnished to each Subordinate Lodge.*

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals made the following report :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals, to whom were referred the memorial from Vicksburg, No. 26, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report : Your Committee believe that the two first resolutions in the proceedings of Vicksburg Lodge on the third day of October, eighteen hundred and forty, were correct and proper, as evidencing the kind of vigilance and care which should never be lost sight of in Masonic Lodges, when applications are made for initiation or advancement, and which, your Committee much fear are not sufficiently observed in some Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and cannot be too forcibly urged upon all the Lodges for their observance.

The third resolution of the proceedings of the third October, although clearly Masonic, is of a character which ought not, without very manifest and urgent

*NOTE—No copy of this edition of the Constitution is known to be in existence. It is not inserted in the "Extract from the Proceedings," for the year 1841, but it appears, from the Grand Treasurer's account, that it was printed in a separate pamphlet. The first edition of the Constitution issued after that printed in the proceedings of the Convention which organized the Grand Lodge, was in 1830, which will be found in this reprint of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, pages 120 to 123.

necessity, be adopted. How the facts existed which induced its passage, your Committee have no information. Entertaining this view in regard to the proceedings of the third October, 1840, your Committee believe that the resolutions passed at the meeting of the seventh November, eighteen hundred and forty, ought not to have been adopted.

Your Committee are clearly of opinion that the rejection of a brother for want of proficiency in preceding degrees, does not affect his right of election at any time after such proficiency is acquired.

G. A. WILSON,
H. BARRETT.

The report was, on motion, received and agreed to.

The following is the substance of the memorial reported upon above, by the Committee on Complaints and Appeals:

A petition for the third degree was before the Lodge. It was ascertained that the petitioner had not made suitable proficiency in the preceding degrees, and a resolution was passed, in constitutional form, dispensing with this requisite of the By-Laws, it being considered a case of emergency; and, upon ballot being taken, the candidate was rejected. A resolution was unanimously adopted that the rejection was not final, but that the candidate might be advanced when suitable proficiency had been made. This was on the 3d of October. On the 7th of November, a resolution was adopted declaring that all the proceedings on the 3d of October, after the unfavorable report of the committee as to proficiency was made, were void and of no effect. The memorialists desired to know whether the proceedings of the 3d of October were not according to ancient usages, and whether the resolution of the 7th of November were not out of order and improper.

On motion of Bro. Stevens,

Resolved, That the Secretary of Hiram Lodge, No. 9, be allowed to take his seat in this body, as the representative of that body.

The Grand Lecturer made his report, which, on motion of Bro. Cotton, was received and agreed to:

The undersigned, having been elected at the last Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, Grand Lecturer, begs leave to submit the following report:

That in the discharge of the important trust committed to him, he visited all the Lodges in the State, in the following order, to-wit: Pearl Lodge, No. 23, at Jackson, on the 4th day of April. This Lodge is in a flourishing condition, working strictly within the ancient landmarks of the Order. Harmony and good feeling prevail amongst the brethren as well without as within the Lodge, but still deficient, in some degree, in Masonic knowledge. Thence to Shady Grove, on the 12th of May; to Gallatin, No. 25, on the 15th of May; to Quitman, No. 18, on the 19th of May; to Olive Branch, No. 34, on the 22d of May; to Bowie, U. D., on the 24th of May; to Monroe, No. 39, on 28th of May; to Eastern Star, No. 27, on the 2d of June; to Liberty, No. 37, on the 8th of June; to Harmony and Andrew Jackson, Nos. 1 and 2, on the 13th of June; to Hiram, No. 9, on the 18th of June; to Washington, No. 3, on the 19th of June; to Grand Gulf, No. 41, on the 23d of June; to Vicksburg and Ancient York, Nos. 26 and 38, on the 29th of June; to Yazoo, No. 42, on the 20th of July; to Leake, No. 17, on the 24th of July; to Lexington, No. 24, on the 28th of July; to Carrollton, No. 36, on the 2d of August; to Pythagoras, on the 5th of August; to Grenada, No. 31, on the 12th of August; to Oxford, No. 33, on the 17th of August; to Holly Springs, No. 35, on the 18th of September; to Salem on the 22d of September, and found that they had not as yet received their dispensation, although one had been granted some time previously; and, of course, I did no work there. Thence to Ripley, U. D., on the 23d of September; to Pontotoc, U. D., on the 25th of September; to Aberdeen, No. 32, on the 30th of September; to Columbus, No. 5, on the 7th of October; to Macon, No. 44, on the 16th of October; to Coleman, No. 29, on the 8th of

November; to Clinton, No. 16, on the 14th of November; to Raymond, No. 21, on the 27th of November; to Canton, No. 28, on the 4th of January, 1841; to Fitz, No. 30, on the 8th of January. It affords him the highest pleasure to be able to state that the foregoing Lodges are in a flourishing condition. Peace, harmony and brotherly love prevail universally, and the brethren are zealous in the discharge of the various duties assigned them; but, in discharging his duties, he hopes to be excused for reporting some of the Lodges deficient in Masonic light. This arises from the fact that the officers of the Subordinate Lodges are changed more or less every year, and the large number of initiations cause them to be filled, very often, by young Masons not sufficiently skilled in the mode of work to prevent, to some extent, confusion, jars and discord; but he found them all attentive, and anxious to receive instruction, except Olive Branch, No. 34, which he did not visit, believing it to be under a state of suspension. Since then he has learned that peace and harmony prevail, and that they are now working strictly within the ancient landmarks of the Order.

In Quitman, No. 18, he found that brotherly love and charity did not prevail in that eminent degree that it did in other Lodges, but he is happy to be able to state that kind feelings have been restored, and that there is no contention existing at this time but "that contention, or rather noble emulation, of who can best work and best agree."

Your Grand Lecturer would do great violence to his feelings, and injustice to the various Lodges he has visited, were he not to bear testimony to the kind and brotherly manner in which he has been received by all of them, and he begs leave to tender his warmest feelings of gratitude to the brethren for conferring on him this important and responsible trust; and, in conclusion, would invoke the blessings of Deity on all the laudable undertakings not only of this Grand Lodge, but of the Subordinate Lodges throughout the State, and all the brethren of the mystic tie wherever Providence in its all-wise dispensations may have cast their lots.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DAVID J. WHITE,
Grand Lecturer, Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

R. W. Bro. G. A. Wilson was, on petition, duly elected a member of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Stevens,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to Bro. D. J. White for the able and workman-like manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office the past year.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report:

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report, That they have examined the returns from Salem Lodge, U. D., received since their last report; that they have examined the By-Laws of said Lodge, and find them in entire accordance with the By-Laws heretofore approved; and although a transcript of their proceedings has not been transmitted, through ignorance of the requirement by the Grand Lodge, your Committee recommend that a charter be granted to Salem Lodge upon payment of the fees.

JAS. A. STEVENS,
W. R. PARKER,
J. M. DUFFIELD.

On motion of Bro. Cotton, the report was received and agreed to.

The resolutions, offered by Bro. Mitchell on Tuesday evening, were called up, and question being had upon the first resolution, it was lost.

On motion, the second resolution was again laid upon the table.

Bro. Vannatta offered the following:

Resolved, That the new Grand Master appoint some well-informed brother, who shall be a Past Master and a member of some Subordinate Lodge, as Grand Lecturer for the ensuing year, whose duty it shall be to visit such Lodges as may need Masonic light, and lecture them on the three first Degrees of Masonry (by the Lodge giving due and timely notice to the Grand Lecturer) at the expense of the Lodge instructed.

Bro. Cooper moved to strike out the words "the Grand Master shall appoint," and insert, "the Grand Lodge shall elect;" but before the question was taken, on motion of R. W. Bro. Wilson, the resolution was laid upon the table.

Bro. Stevens offered the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge do appoint a Grand Lecturer, whose duty it shall be to visit all the Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, for which services he shall receive a compensation of one thousand dollars.

Question being had, it was decided in the negative.

Bro. Samuel Hart, on petition, was duly elected a member of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Cooper,

Resolved, That a Grand Lecturer be elected in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

P. S. Caffry and David Jewett, representatives of Liberty Lodge, No. 37, appeared, produced their credentials, and took their seats.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges, made report that the returns from Liberty Lodge, No. 37, were correct, and that Bros. David Jewett and P. S. Caffry were the regular representatives from said Lodge.

The report was received and agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Wilson,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge elect one Deputy Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge then went into the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, when, upon counting the ballots, it appeared that the following were elected:

M. W. ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Master.
R. W. JOHN M. DUFFIELD.....	Deputy Grand Master.
SAMUEL COTTON.....	Grand Senior Warden.
S. W. VANNATTA.....	Grand Junior Warden.
HENRY TOOLEY.....	Grand Chaplain.
JAMES A. STEVENS.....	Grand Orator.
P. L. MITCHELL.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
C. R. PRZYMINSKI.....	Grand Marshal.
W. W. WILKINS.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
THOMAS C. FINNEY.....	Grand Pursuivant.
THOS. ROSE.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.
DAVID J. WHITE.....	Grand Lecturer.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

A report was made by the select committee to whom was referred the communication from the City Hotel, presented with report of the Grand Secretary, which, on motion, was received.*

The Grand Master elect, appointed Bro. J. M. Duffield, Deputy Grand Master, and Bro. John R. Hewitt, Grand Senior Deacon; and the Grand Senior Warden elect, appointed Bro. Pitt Thomas, Grand Junior Deacon.

The Grand Officers elect, were then installed in Due and Ancient Form, by R. W. George A. Wilson, Fifth District Deputy Grand Master.

The Grand Officers then took their respective stations.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Stevens, it was

Resolved, To carry out the recommendations of the select committee, in relation to the communication from City Hotel; and Bro. D. J. White was appointed a committee to inform the author of the communication.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Duffield,

Resolved, That Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, be again received as a Lodge in good standing; and that all resolutions heretofore passed by the Grand Lodge, censuring said Lodge, are hereby rescinded.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Duffield,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do highly approve of the proposition of R. W. Bro. James Herring, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, to publish a "Portrait Gallery of Eminent American Free Masons," with appropriate biographies; and do recommend it to the patronage of the fraternity within its Jurisdiction.

On motion of Bro. Wilson,

Resolved, That Bro. Rose be allowed the sum of one hundred and eighty dollars, the amount lost by him on uncurrent money paid him by the Grand Lodge last year.

R. W. Bro. Thomas offered the following amendments to the Constitution, which were, upon being seconded, laid upon the table until the next Annual Communication for further action :

1st. To the first section of article I: strike out the first section and insert in place thereof, the following words: "The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, shall consist of the Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Past Masters of Subordinate Lodges, (having been such by office,) Masters and Wardens of Subordinate Lodges for the time being, or the legal representatives of said Lodges."

2d. To section 5, article I: strike out the words, "who shall be chosen," and insert in place thereof the following words: "all of whom (except the R. W. Deputy Grand Master) shall be elected."

3d. To section 10, article I: strike out the words "Grand Lodge," and insert in place thereof the words, "Grand Master."

On motion of Bro. Stevens,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause two hundred copies of such parts of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge to be printed as he may deem proper; and that two copies be forwarded to each Subordinate Lodge, within ninety days from the passage of this resolution.

The Committee on Accounts reported that the account of the Grand Steward and Tyler was correct. One item of this account was \$65 for "refreshments for two days."

On motion of Bro. Gray,

* NOTE—This document does not appear in the original copy of the "Extract."

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to prepare a form of a return for Subordinate Lodges, and attach it to the copies of the resolutions required to be furnished the Subordinate Lodges, and that they be required to conform to said form.

The committee on Foreign Communications made the following report :

The Committee on Foreign Communications have examined communications from the Grand Lodges of Florida, Alabama, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Georgia, Maryland, Indiana and Kentucky, and are pleased to observe the general prosperity of the fraternity. The Committee have found nothing in their examination requiring the particular notice of this Grand Lodge, except a resolution passed by the Grand Lodge of Alabama, and approved by the Grand Lodges of New York and Maryland, recommending "A meeting of delegates from all the Grand Lodges of the United States at Washington City, to produce uniformity in working throughout the United States, and to make other lawful regulations for the interest and security of the craft."

Although there are some evils to be apprehended from such a meeting, yet your Committee are inclined to think favorably of the measure, as every day's experience goes to prove the necessity of a General Grand Lodge of the United States, to preserve harmony, to prevent the establishment of Grand Lodges within the jurisdiction of other Grand Lodges, as well as to preserve the Ancient Land Marks of the Order.

Your Committee, in conclusion, would recommend the usual courtesy in the transmission of a copy of the published proceedings to the several Grand Lodges of the United States, Canada, Nova Scotia and Texas.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. P. MELLEN,
G. D. PATTERSON,
SAMUEL COTTON.

On motion, the report was received.

On motion of Bro. Duffield,

Resolved, That if any of the Lodges now working under dispensation, and which ought to have applied, but did not, for charters at the present Grand Annual Communication, shall, prior to the next Annual Communication, apply to the Grand Secretary for charters, and such application conform to our laws; and the Grand Secretary approving of the work of said Lodges, he is hereby authorized to issue charters to the Lodges so applying.

On motion of Bro. Wilson,

Resolved, That the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge be held in the month of February next, commencing on the first Monday of said month.

Bro. Stevens offered the following amendment to the third section of article third of the Constitution, which was received and laid upon the table until the next Annual Communication, for further action :

Resolved, That the dues now required to be paid to the Grand Lodge by Subordinate Lodges, be reduced one-half.

Bro. Vannata offered the following :

Resolved, That the representatives of Subordinate Lodges be paid out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, ——— dollars, for every thirty miles going to and returning from the Grand Lodge; and ——— dollars for each day's attendance during the session of the Grand Lodge; *Provided*, That not more than one delegate from such Lodge be entitled to compensation; nor shall the compensation to any delegate exceed the amount of dues actually paid by the Lodge which he may represent.

2. That the foregoing resolution take effect from and after the next Grand Annual Communication.

Bro. Hewitt moved to lay the resolutions upon the table; which motion did not prevail.

Bro. Mitchell moved to fill the blanks with "twenty-five cents," which being lost, the question was taken upon the passage of said resolutions, and carried in the affirmative.

Bro. Duffield moved to postpone filling the blanks until the next Annual Communication; which motion was lost.

On motion of Bro. Vannatta, the first blank was filled with "two;" and

On motion of Bro. Stevens, the second blank was filled with "two" also.

On motion, the Grand Lodge then adjourned *sine die*, and was closed in Ancient and Ample Form.

ATTEST :

WILLIAM P. MELLENS,
Grand Secretary.

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION

1842.

NATCHEZ, February 7, 1842.

PRESENT :

M.: W.: ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.: GEORGE A. WILSON.....	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
JAMES A. STEVENS.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
P. L. MITCHELL.....	Grand Treasurer.
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
JOHN R. HEWITT.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
JOSEPH G. HALL.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
H. D. LANE.....	Grand Steward & Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

The following named Representatives of Subordinate Lodges appeared, presented their credentials, and took their seats :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—William P. Mellen.
Andrew Jackson, No. 2—W. W. Wilkins.
Leake, No. 17—Thomas P. Slade, A. F. Keeble, E. G. McKee.
Raymond, No. 21—R. L. Scott.
Lexington, No. 24—John Lacy.
Coleman, No. 29—J. H. Harris.
Oxford, No. 33—Samuel Cotton.
Holly Springs, No. 35—G. A. Wilson.
Yazoo, No. 42—James A. Stevens.
Benj. Franklin, No. 46—Wm. C. Chamberlain.
Hernando, U. D.—J. G. Hall.
Locke, U. D.—John R. Hewitt.
Sterling, U. D.—Joseph R. Eastburn.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form.

But few Lodges appearing to be represented, the Grand Lodge, on motion of Bro. George A. Wilson, adjourned till to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

TUESDAY, February 8th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. W. ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Master.
R. W. SAM'L COTTON.....	Grand Senior Warden.
JAMES A. STEVENS.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
P. L. MITCHELL.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
JOHN R. HEWITT.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
PITT THOMAS.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
H. D. LANE.....	Grand Steward & Tyler, <i>p. t.</i>

The following Lodges were represented in addition to those which were represented on yesterday, to-wit :

Clinton, No. 16—David J. White.
 Pearl, No. 23—M. R. Dudley.
 Gallatin, No. 25—S. H. Johnson.
 Vicksburg, No. 26—B. S. Tappan, W. B. Davenport.
 Aberdeen, No. 32—John Abbott.
 Ancient York, No. 38—Wm. H. Hurst, Pitt Thomas.
 Macon, No. 40—R. W. Bumpass.
 Shady Grove, No. 43—Evan Lewis.
 Lafayette, U. D.—Thomas J. Johnston.

The Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committees :

On Foreign Communications—Bros. Wilson, Cotton, Wilkins.
 On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. Lacy, S. H. Johnson, Lewis.
 On Unfinished Business—Bros. Slade, Harris, Hall.
 On Subordinate Lodges—Bros. Hewitt, McKee, Mellen.
 On Accounts—Bros. Chamberlain, Cooper, Keeble.

On motion of Bro. Hewitt, the returns of Subordinate Lodges and credentials of representatives and proxies, were referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Secretary presented his annual report, with his account current, which were referred to the Committee on Accounts, on motion of Bro. B. S. Tappan.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi :

In presenting his account current, the undersigned begs leave to report, that since the adjournment of the Grand Lodge, the annual returns of Pearl, No. 23, Gallatin, No. 25, Washington, No. 3, and Pythagoras, U. D., and the dues of Washington, No. 3, were received for the year ending February, 1841.

Charters have been issued to Ripley, Bowie, Benjamin Franklin, Salem and Pythagoras Lodges, and Dispensations to Hernando and Greensboro, by order of the Grand Lodge ; and Dispensations, by directions of the M. W. Grand Master, to Sterling, at Paulding ; Locke, at Natchez ; Brooklyn, at Brooklyn ; David J. White, at Columbia ; and Lafayette, at Quitman.

The rooms of the basement story of the Masonic Hall, are under rent to good tenants, at the rate of \$480 per annum. The undersigned found it necessary to reduce the rents so that they might correspond with the changes in the business of the country.

It is estimated that the income of the Grand Lodge, from all sources, for the present year, will be about fifteen hundred dollars, which is about three hundred dollars less than the present debt of the Grand Lodge.

The gentleman who contracted to draw the Masonic Hall Lottery, discontinued the drawings some fifteen months ago. He has probably forfeited his contract by so doing, and has expressed himself to the undersigned as willing that another contract should be made with another individual.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. P. MELLEN, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary's account current showed the receipts for the year to have been \$1953 84, which, with the exception of \$297 50, Grand Secretary's fees, \$28 00 contingent expenses, and a balance of \$82 94, had been paid to the Grand Treasurer. The Grand Treasurer reported a balance of \$551 50 on hand, all but \$46 50 of which was in uncurrent funds.

The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer reported that in compliance with the order of the Grand Lodge they had balanced all accounts on the ledger which they thought there was no prospect of collecting.

Several petitions for membership were received and laid upon the table.

The appeal of Phineas Gardner from the judgment of Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, expelling him from that Lodge, and depriving him of the benefits of Masonry, and the appeals of Bros. Coons and Harper, from the decision of said Lodge, on points of order, were presented and referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

On motion of Bro. S. H. Johnson, the Grand Lodge adjourned till three o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Subordinate Lodges represented as in the morning, with the addition of Wm. Cooper, a representative of Locke Lodge, U. D.

Bro. G. A. Wilson, presented a petition for a Dispensation for brethren at Chulahoma, to open a new Lodge, to be called Chulahoma, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. Tappan,

Resolved, That the appeal of Phineas Gardner, from the decision of Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, be referred to a select committee of five, and that the vote referring it to the Standing Committee on Complaints, be rescinded; whereupon the M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. Wilson, Slade, S. H. Johnson, Cotton and Hewitt, said committee.

On motion of Bro. Tappan,

Resolved, That the appeals of Bros. Coons and Harper be referred to a special committee of three.

Whereupon, the M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. Dudley, Lacy and Harris, said committee.

On motion of Bro. Hurst,

Resolved, That the committee on the appeal of Phineas Gardner be instructed to report as soon as practicable.

The Committee on Unfinished Business made the following report:

The Committee to whom was referred the Unfinished Business of the last Annual Communication, after as careful an examination of the minutes as the shortness of the time within which they had to report will allow, beg leave to offer the following report:

On page 16, printed minutes, we find that Clinton Lodge, and Holly Springs Lodge, were allowed until the present Annual Communication to pay their dues. On page 19, same minutes, in the report of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges, your committee find that several Lodges under dispensation have not complied with the second section of article two, of the Constitution, and

that they were allowed until the present Communication to comply with the same. Also, on page 26, same minutes, your committee find that certain amendments to the Constitution were proposed, which were laid upon the table until the present Communication for further action.

The amendments to the Constitution which have been referred to, your committee think are of great interest to the Subordinate Lodges, and more particularly the amendments proposed on page 26, of the printed minutes. Your committee, therefore, suggest an immediate action of the Grand Lodge thereon.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS P. SLADE,
JOHN H. HARRIS,
JOS. G. HALL,
Committee.

On motion of Bro. Tappan, the report was received and committee discharged.

On motion of Bro. Hurst,

Resolved, That the matters and things in relation to the dues of Clinton Lodge to the Grand Lodge, and the proposition made to this Lodge through their representative, Bro. White, be referred to a select committee of three.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. Hurst, Cooper and Davenport.

Bro. Tappan called up from the table the following proposed amendments to the Constitution, which were offered at the last Grand Annual Communication :

First amendment—To the first section of first article: Strike out the first section and insert in place thereof the following words :

"The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi shall consist of the Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Past Masters of Subordinate Lodges (having been such by office), Masters and Wardens of Subordinate Lodges for the time being, or the legal representatives of said Lodges."

Vote being had upon said amendment, it was unanimously adopted.

Second amendment—To Section 5, Article 1st: Strike out the words "who shall be chosen," and insert in place thereof the following words: "all of whom (except the R. W. Deputy Grand Master), shall be elected."

Vote being had upon said second amendment, the amendment was lost.

Third amendment—To Section 10, Article 1st: Strike out the words "Grand Lodge," and insert in place thereof the words "Grand Master."

Vote being had on this amendment, this amendment was also lost.

Fourth amendment—To the 3d Section, Article 3d: That the dues now required to be paid to the Grand Lodge by the Subordinate Lodges, be reduced one-half.

This amendment was also lost.

Bro. Tappan offered the following :

Resolved, That the resolution introduced by Bro. Vannata, and passed by the Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication, referring to pay of delegates from Subordinate Lodges, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

Which, on motion, was laid on the table.

On motion of Bro. Wilson, the Grand Lodge adjourned till 9 o'clock, tomorrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Subordinate Lodges with same representatives as yesterday, with the addition of Bro. A. H. Cain, a representative of Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26.

On motion of Bro. Bumpuss,

Resolved, That no member be allowed during the continuance of this Communication, to speak more than fifteen minutes on any subject at one time.

Bro. Wilson offered the following resolution, which was, on motion of Bro. Tappan, laid upon the table:

Resolved, That Bro. Grand Secretary be authorized to receive from Subordinate Lodges the notes of such banks as are considered solvent where such Lodge may be held, and where such money passes at par.

On motion of Bro. Tappan,

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, it is wrong, improper and unmasonic for any Lodge to initiate persons without the jurisdiction of this Lodge, and that Lafayette Lodge of the City of Philadelphia, in initiating a citizen of Vicksburg, who had been rejected by Ancient York Lodge of the latter place, acted unmasonically.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary send a copy of the above to Lafayette Lodge, Philadelphia.

Bro. Tappan offered a resolution remitting the dues of Vicksburg Lodge for the past year, which was laid, by his motion, upon the table.

On motion of Bro. Tappan,

Resolved, That the resolution in the general and permanent regulations, which states that "a petition for initiation may be withdrawn before being acted on by the Lodge," be so altered as to read, viz: "That if the report of the Committee on a petition be favorable, the petitioner may withdraw his petition, but if the report be unfavorable, he shall not have the right of withdrawing his petition, but a ballot shall take place."

On motion of Bro. Tappan, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to report to this Lodge some of the books on Masonry for the Subordinate Lodges to work under, which shall be considered the standards of Masonry in Mississippi.

Upon which the M. W. Grand Master appointed Bros. Tappan, Cotton and S. H. Johnson, said committee.

Bro. Tappan offered the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge proceed to the election of its officers at 3 o'clock, P. M., and the officers elect be installed at 8 o'clock, P. M.

And upon vote being taken, it was lost.

Bro. Cooper moved the following:

WHEREAS, The experience of past ages has served to demonstrate the fact that the preservation of political and religious freedom, the diffusion of the divine principles of friendship, virtue and morality, are mainly dependent upon the general diffusion of knowledge, and

WHEREAS, The education of the youth of this country is a duty obligatory upon every good citizen, philanthropist, Christian and Mason; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, at its regular Annual Communication, shall appoint three of its members superintendents of the Grand Lodge School.

2. That the sum of one thousand dollars per annum be appropriated by the Grand Lodge to defray the expenses of said school.

3. That the western room of the basement story of the Masonic Hall, be and is hereby appropriated for the use and benefit of the Grand Lodge School.

4. That the Superintendents shall have power to make all rules and regulations for the government of said school; *Provided*, Every Master Mason's orphan shall be furnished with books and instruction free of charge, and every

poor Master Mason's child shall receive instruction free of charge, at the discretion of the Board of Superintendents.

Bro. Wilson moved to amend by adding another resolution, to-wit :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge pay all the expenses of such children of poor Master Masons, or their orphans, in coming to the city of Natchez, from other portions of the State, and that their board be paid while attending the school.

The resolutions and amendment were then, on motion, laid upon the table.

The select committee to whom was referred the matters and things communicated to this Lodge by Bro. White, in relation to the dues of Clinton Lodge, respectfully report :

That they have called upon Bro. White for a written statement of his proposition, which he declined giving, they therefore beg to be discharged from the further consideration of the matter.

W. H. HURST, Chairman.

Which report was received and agreed to, and on motion of Bro. Wilson the proposition of Bro. White, on behalf of Clinton Lodge, was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The Select Committee to whom was referred the appeals of Bros. Coons and Harper, made report, which, on motion, was recommitted, with additional documents.

On motion of Bro. Tappan,

Resolved, That Subordinate Lodges shall not receive an application for membership without the applicant producing a receipt for all dues to the Lodge of which he was a previously a member, or produce such other evidence as may satisfy the Lodge that the applicant has paid his dues.

The Grand Secretary presented an application for a new Lodge at Rodney, whereupon it was

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary issue dispensation to the petitioners for a new Lodge, under the name of ———.

Bro. Thos. J. Johnson offered a resolution in relation to the dues of Lafayette Lodge, which was, on his motion, laid upon the table.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till three o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, 3 o'clock P. M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Representatives of Subordinate Lodges the same as in the morning.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report :

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report that returns have been received, at the present Communication, from the following Lodges, subordinate to this Grand Lodge, viz :

Harmony, No. 1 ; Andrew Jackson, No. 2 ; Clinton, No. 16 ; *Leake, No. 17 ; Quitman, No. 18 ; Raymond, No. 21 ; Pearl Lodge, No. 23 ; Lexington, No. 24 ; Gallatin, No. 25 ; Vicksburg, No. 26 ; Coleman, No. 29 ; Grenada, No. 31 ; Aberdeen, No. 32 ; Oxford, No. 33 ; Holly Springs, No. 35 ; Carrollton, No. 36 ; Ancient York, No. 38 ; *Macon, No. 40 ; Yazoo, No. 42 ; Shady Grove,

*For two years.

No. 43; Benj. Franklin, No. 46; Sterling, U. D.; Lafayette, U. D.; Hernando, U. D.; Locke, U. D.; Brooklyn, U. D.

The following are duly represented, viz:

Harmony, No. 1—Wm. P. Mellen.
 Andrew Jackson, No. 2—W. W. Wilkins, E. Craig.
 Clinton, No. 16—D. J. White.
 Raymond, No. 21—Rob't L. Scott.
 Pearl, No. 23—M. R. Dudley.
 Lexington, 24—John Lacy.
 Gallatin, No. 25—S. H. Johnson.
 Vicksburg, No. 26—B. S. Tappan, A. H. Cain, W. B. Davenport.
 Coleman, No. 29—J. H. Harris.
 Aberdeen, No. 32—John Abbott.
 Oxford, No. 33—Samuel Cotton.
 Holly Springs, No. 35—Geo. A. Wilson.
 Ancient York, No. 38—Pitt Thomas, W. H. Hurst.
 Macon, No. 40—R. W. Bumpuss.
 Yazoo, No. 42—Jas. A. Stevens.
 Shady Grove, No. 43—Evan Lewis.
 Benj. Franklin, No. 46—Wm. C. Chamberlain.
 Sterling, U. D.—Joseph R. Eastburn.
 Lafayette, U. D.—Thos. J. Johnston.
 Hernando, U. D.—Jos. G. Hall.
 Locke, U. D.—Wm. Cooper, J. R. Hewitt.

No returns have been received from the following named Lodges, nor are they represented:

Washington, No. 3; Columbus, No. 5; Hiram, No. 9; Eastern Star, No. 27; Canton, No. 28; Olive Branch, No. 34; Carrollton, No. 36; Liberty, No. 37; Munroe, No. 39; Grand Gulf, No. 41; Bowie, No. 44; Salem, No. 45; Ripley, No. 47; Pythagoras, No. 48; D. J. White, U. D.

Your Committee recommend that Washington, No. 3; Columbus, No. 5; Hiram, No. 9; Canton, No. 28; Olive Branch, No. 34; Carrollton, No. 36; Liberty, No. 37; Grand Gulf, No. 41; Bowie, No. 44; Salem, No. 45, and Ripley, No. 47, have till first May next to make returns and pay their dues.

Pythagoras, No. 48, owes for charter and dues for the past two years. At the last Annual Communication, time was given to that Lodge to pay for its dues while under dispensation and for its charter, until the present Grand Annual Communication, by resolution of the Grand Lodge. Your Committee recommend that it have further time until the 1st May next to comply with the requisitions of the Constitution, and on failure thereof, stand suspended till next Communication of the Grand Lodge.

Eastern Star, No. 27, and Munroe, No. 39, being in arrears for two years, and having had time given at the last Grand Annual Communication, your Committee recommend the same course towards these Lodges that they have suggested in relation to Pythagoras, No. 48.

Greensboro and David J. White Lodges, under dispensation, having neither paid their dues nor made returns, it is recommended that they have also until the first of May next to comply with the terms of their Dispensation, and if their work shall be approved by the Grand Secretary, that he be authorized to issue charters to said Lodges. Said Lodges, of course, ceased to exist, upon the convening of the present Grand Lodge, and can do no further work without a charter.

The Grand Secretary should notify the Lodges to which time shall be given of the fact.

The Committee approve of the By-Laws and proceedings of the following named Lodges under dispensation, viz: Lafayette, Sterling, Locke, Brooklyn and Hernando, with the exception that they find in the proceedings of Lafayette Lodge, that By-Laws have been adopted and other business transacted,

when the Lodge has been opened in the two lower degrees. This is contrary to the laws of the Grand Lodge, and your Committee recommend that said Lodge be required to amend its By-Laws, upon receiving a charter, so as to require all balloting and all other work to be done in M. M. Lodge, excepting the actual initiation and passing of candidates. They recommend the issuing of charters forthwith to said Lodges; and a dispensation to brethren at Chulahoma to form a new Lodge by that name. The undersigned have also examined the revised Constitution of Raymond Lodge, No. 21, with approbation, as well as the amendments to that of Pearl, No. 23.

Brandon Lodge reports two of its officers as having dimitted. This is believed to be contrary to the rules of Masonry, as well as to the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and productive of much confusion among the workmen.

Owing to the shortness of the period which Layette Lodge has been in operation, it is recommended that said Lodge have until next Grand Annual Communication to pay its dues.

The Committee have had also under consideration a proposition made by the representative of Clinton Lodge, No. 16, in relation to the purchase of the real estate of that Lodge, and remission of its dues. The Committee do not think it advisable for the Grand Lodge to accept the proposition of Clinton Lodge to purchase its real estate. The dues for 1840, were paid, but the dues for 1838 and 1839 are still unpaid, and time was given until the present Communication for these dues to be paid. It is for the Grand Lodge to say what further shall be done in the premises.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN R. HEWITT,
E. G. M'KEE,
WM. P. MELLEN.

On motion of Bro. Mitchell, the report was received and agreed to, and the recommendations of the Committee adopted.

Bro. Bumpuss called up the resolution offered by Bro. Tappan and laid upon the table on Tuesday evening, in relation to pay of members, and moved its rejection, but before question was had thereon the resolution was withdrawn.

Whereupon, Bro. Mitchell offered the following:

Resolved, That the resolution passed at the last Annual Communication, on the subject of pay and mileage of members, be so considered as to take effect at the Annual Communication in 1843.

But after some discussion withdrew the same.

On motion of Bro. Wilson,

Resolved, (by ballot,) That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the resolutions of Bro. Vannatta, at last Grand Communication, is in force at this Annual Communication, and that the representatives of Subordinate Lodges are entitled to their pay under the same at this Grand Lodge.

The Select Committee to whom were referred the appeals of Bros. Coons and Harper, made the following report:

The Committee to whom was referred the appeals of Bros. Coons and Harper, beg leave to report:

That they have had the same under consideration, and from the papers and evidence in the case, the Committee find nothing requiring the action of the Grand Lodge; but at the same time the Committee would recommend that the Grand Lodge give its views in relation to the two main points of difference, so that future appeals upon the same grounds may be prevented. The ground upon which Bro. Coons bases his appeal, is, that in difficulties arising between brethren of the Masonic Fraternity, no testimony should be admitted, but that of Master Masons. Bro. Harper's ground of appeal is, that the individual brothers who prefer charges should not be permitted to vote on the subject of

the charge. The Committee is clearly of opinion that neither of the positions taken by the appellants is tenable.

M. R. DUDLEY,
JOHN LACY,
J. H. HARRIS.

Which, on motion of Bro. Hurst, was received and agreed to.

The Select Committee upon Masonic Books, made the following report :

The Committee appointed under a resolution of this Lodge, to report some of the books on Masonry for the Subordinate Lodges to work under, beg leave to recommend two books, the principles illustrated being the same, viz: Cross' Chart and Tannerhill's Manual, both of which are considered standard works.

B. S. TAPPAN, Chairman.

And on motion of Bro. Tappan, said report was received and agreed to.

The following report was presented by Bro. Wilson :

The select committee appointed on the appeal of Phinaes Gardner, from Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report :

That in the opinion of the committee there are presented but two questions requiring their consideration, or upon which it is necessary for the Grand Lodge to express an opinion.

1st. As to the Masonic legality of receiving the testimony of persons who are not members of the fraternity, on the trial of a member ; and

2d. As to the Masonic legality of receiving the testimony *ex parte*, and without notice to the accused.

In regard to the first question presented, your committee cannot believe that there are any grounds to sustain such an objection. If we admit for a moment that all charges of unmasonic conduct which may be preferred against a member of our institution, must be sustained alone by the evidence of the brethren, it would at once turn loose all unworthy members who (for want of proper care and investigation of the worthy and deserving,) have gained admittance into our order, to do and perform all and every kind of vice and immorality, and be perfectly secure from Masonic censure and punishment, by keeping aloof from the members of the institution and avoiding the observation of those few, comparatively very few members of the community, by whom alone (if such a position is sustained,) their guilt could be established or their vices punished. Holding forth to the world that, in our institution, Virtue and Morality are not inculcated and taught as lessons only, but required to be practiced upon in our conduct and intercourse, as well with the rest of mankind as among ourselves. A man who has no good moral character in the community in which he lives, cannot gain admission into our Lodges. He who then does any act to forfeit his claim to such a character in the community in which he lives, ought to forfeit his Masonic privileges, which have been granted to him alone on account of his moral worth. His standing among those who are not of us, has gained him rights among us, and surely the evidence of those whose good opinion formed the foundation of his rights is competent to deprive him of them.

The second question presented, your committee believe offers no objection to the propriety and justice of the proceedings of Vicksburg Lodge, which ought to be sustained. 'Tis true that in courts of justice, when men are tried for crimes which subject them to corporeal punishment, a forfeiture of their liberty and deprivation of their property, their personal and political rights, the law requires that the accused shall have the right to be confronted with his witnesses face to face ; there it requires that beyond all reasonable doubt his guilt shall be manifest, that twelve men shall all agree in regard to it, any one of whom may deter the others from bringing him to punishment—through technicalities he may escape. But how stands the accused in a Masonic Lodge? Freely and voluntarily and uninfluenced by friends, he has solicited the privilege of enjoying certain rights, and upon his part, in consideration thereof, he

has promised to be a good man and true, and strictly to obey the moral law. He cannot then expect, nor would he be allowed, to escape censure or punishment by any technical objections to the mode of his arraignment; nor would he be relieved from the just condemnation of his brethren, because his guilt had not been established beyond all reasonable doubt, or because the evidence which had been adduced against him had not been confined to the strict rules of the common law, in regard to the admissibility of testimony or the competency of witnesses. Many offences exist in the code of our institution which are not known as crimes or misdemeanors by the laws of the land, which would deprive the person guilty of them of the privileges of the order. By the judgment of his brethren he is not deprived of his property or liberty, but they merely take from him those rights and privileges which were granted to him upon a free and voluntary agreement upon his part to conform to certain regulations. Among those regulations exists a solemn compact that his brethren shall be the judges of the fact, whether he has continued to comply with his part of the agreement or not. Upon evidence satisfactory to them judgment can be pronounced against him; he has every opportunity to defend himself, to show that the testimony against him is untrue, or to acquit himself by any reasonable and Masonic justification. In the case submitted to your committee it does not appear, nor has there been shown to your committee, any reason to induce them to disbelieve the truth of the evidence adduced, and upon which it appears Vicksburg Lodge was satisfactorily convinced of the guilt of the accused. Your committee therefore recommend that the appeal be dismissed and your committee discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

G. A. WILSON,
THOS. P. SLADE,
S. H. JOHNSON,
SAMUEL COTTON,
JNO. R. HEWITT.

On motion of Bro. Wilson, the report was received and agreed to.

On motion of Bro. McKee, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge forthwith proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year.

The Grand Lodge then took a recess of ten minutes; after which the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, and, upon counting the ballots, the following were found duly elected:

M.: W.: GEORGE A. WILSON.....Grand Master.
R.: W.: SAMUEL COTTON.....Deputy Grand Master.
JAMES A. STEVENS.....Grand Senior Warden.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till seven o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Subordinate Lodges represented as heretofore, with the addition of Bro. McGill, from Ancient York Lodge, No. 38.

Brc. James A. Stevens, who had been elected to the office of Grand Senior Warden, on the suggestion that he was neither a Past Master by office or by degree, resigned said office, and the Grand Lodge proceeded with the election, whereupon it appeared that the following were chosen:

R. W. S. W. VANNATTA.....	Grand Senior Warden.
THOS. P. SLADE.....	Grand Junior Warden.
ROBERT STEWART.....	Grand Treasurer.
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
WM. COOPER.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
JOHN R. HEWITT.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
REV. WM. H. B. LANE.....	Grand Chaplain.
S. H. JOHNSON.....	Grand Orator.
P. L. MITCHELL.....	Grand Marshal.
THOS. C. FINNEY.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
WM. C. CHAMBERLAIN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
H. D. LANE.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock A. M., Thursday.

THURSDAY, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Representation of Subordinate Lodges same as yesterday.

Bro. Hurst presented the following protest against the decision of the Grand Lodge on the report of committee on P. Gardner's appeal:

The undersigned beg permission to enter their protest against the report of the committee on the appeal of Phineas Gardner—which on yesterday was offered and agreed to—for the following reasons:

1. It establishes as a principle that brothers may be tried, suspended and expelled, upon testimony taken without notice to them, and which they have never had opportunity of confronting; contrary, as the undersigned believe, to common principles of justice between man and man in the ordinary transactions of life, and of course much more in violation of the bonds of fraternal affection.

2. It breaks down all rule and order upon the trial of a brother, and establishes as a Masonic principle that the Grand Lodge will not upon any occasion interfere with the trial of a brother in a Subordinate Lodge, whatever may have been the nature of the testimony in his case.

3. It determines also that a Master Mason on his trial has no right to object to the admissibility of testimony taken ex parte, having neither been confronted with the witness, or notice given him of the time and place where such testimony would be taken, so that he might have an opportunity to cross-examine; and, indeed, whatever may be the nature of the testimony, if it satisfy the minds of the judges, the accused party must submit, and there is no remedy.

The foregoing objections to the report and action of the committee are of so grave a character, important to the ends of justice, so entirely subversive of, as the undersigned believe, of the obligations of fellowship, the fraternal bond which unites us together as a band of brothers, that they beg leave to enter upon the journals of the Grand Lodge their solemn protest against the report of the committee above mentioned.

All of which is most respectfully submitted,

WM. H. HURST,

D. MCGILL,

Representatives of Ancient York Lodge.

Which was, on motion of Bro. Wilson, rejected.

Bro. Tappan called up the resolution relating to Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, which passed, as follows:

That in consequence of the prevalence of yellow fever in Vicksburg the last

season, and the great loss sustained by the Masonic fraternity in the death of some of its most prominent members, and the relief afforded to the members of the fraternity during the prevalence of the epidemic having exhausted the funds of Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26 ; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the dues due the Grand Lodge by said Lodge be and the same are hereby remitted.

The Committee on Foreign Communications by their chairman, made the following report, which was received and agreed to :

The Committee on Foreign Communications, report :

That since Grand Annual Communication, the Grand Secretary has received the published proceedings of the following Grand Lodges, to-wit: Rhode Island, North Carolina, Kentucky, Alabama, Connecticut, Maryland, New York, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Indiana, Ohio and Florida; and also communications from the Grand Lodges of Alabama and Rhode Island upon the subject of the General Convention of delegates from the Grand Lodges, to be held at Washington City on the first Monday in March next, and a circular congratulatory letter from the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The Committee have found nothing, in their examination of the communications submitted to them, which requires the immediate action of this Grand Lodge, except it be the appointment of a delegate to the convention proposed to be held at Washington City, which your Committee respectfully recommend to be done by this Grand Lodge.

It has afforded your Committee great pleasure to discover, in the discharge of the duty which has been assigned them, that throughout the whole length and breadth of our land, our beloved and cherished institution goes on prospering and to prosper. In the North and East, where mostly the opposition to our Order has been created and kept up with much virulence and vindictiveness, Masonry is again assuming that active prosperity, usefulness and respectability to which it is entitled. In our young sister Republic, we are assured that our institution is doing much good, and that the Lodges, established almost, as it were, in a wilderness, are happily dispensing their influences to the amelioration of man's condition, and drawing hundreds of votaries to the standard of our institution.

Your Committee recommend the transmission, on the part of this Grand Lodge, of the published proceedings to the different Grand Lodges of the several States, and to those of adjacent countries.

All of which is submitted,

GEO. A. WILSON,
W. W. WILKINS,
SAM'L COTTON.

On motion of Bro. Mitchell, the report was received and agreed to.

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals made the following report :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals beg leave most respectfully to report : That the only business which would have required their action (being an appeal from Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26), has been taken from their hands and referred to a special committee. Your Committee cannot forbear an expression of their gratification in finding so much good will, peace and harmony prevailing throughout the great Masonic family under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, as to present but an isolated case of complaint.

S. H. JOHNSON,
JOHN LACY,
EVAN LEWIS.

Bro. White offered the following :

Resolved, That the dues of Clinton Lodge, No. 16, for the years 1838 and 1839, to the Grand Lodge, be remitted.

And question being had thereon, it was decided in the negative.

The Committee on Accounts reported that it had examined and found the Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's accounts correct.

Bro. Wilson called up from the table the following resolution :

Resolved, That Bro. Grand Secretary be authorized to receive from Subordinate Lodges the notes of such banks as are considered solvent where such Lodges may be held, and where such money passes at par.

Bro. Hewett moved to amend by inserting before "banks," the words "specie paying"; which amendment having failed, the resolution was then adopted.

The Grand Lecturer made his report:

REPORT OF THE GRAND LECTURER.

To the M. W. Grand Master, Grand Senior and Junior Wardens and Brethren, of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The undersigned, Grand Lecturer, begs leave to report: That, in the discharge of the duties of his office, he visited the Lodges hereinafter mentioned, in the following order, to-wit: Shady Grove Lodge, No. 43, in Copiah county, in March, where he found the brethren possess a good degree of harmony and brotherly love, but not doing much work. Thence to Quitman Lodge, No. 18, at Georgetown, Copiah county, in March. The members appeared to be warm and cordial among themselves, but the Lodge does not flourish as it did in former times. Hopes are entertained, however, that with the improvements in the pecuniary concerns of the place this Lodge will again do well. Thence to Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, at Williamsburg, Covington county, in March, where the brethren are warm and zealous and where much good was done in the working department. Thence to Bowie Lodge, No. 47, Covington county, in March. There is in this Lodge a great want of Masonic instruction, notwithstanding, the members, as a body, enjoy much harmony and good feeling. Thence to Monroe Lodge, No. 39, Perry county, at Augusta, March. Here they also want "light," though harmony and brotherly love prevail to a good degree. Thence to Eastern Star, No. 27, at Monticello, in April. The situation of this Lodge could not be well ascertained, as no meeting could be had, which circumstance itself argues rather unfavorably to its prospects. Thence to Liberty Lodge, No. 37, in Amite county, April. The same remarks apply to this Lodge as to Eastern Star. Thence to Franklin Lodge, No. 46, at Meadville, in April, but was not employed, of course could not speak with certainty of the situation of the society there. Thence to Harmony and Andrew Jackson Lodges, Nos. 1 and 2, in the City of Natchez, in April. Neither of these Lodges employed the undersigned, but it may reasonably be inferred that as these Lodges constitute the "centre of the system," so to speak, they can be in no need of Masonic "light." Thence to Hiram Lodge, No. 9, Washington, Adams county, in May. There they had no house to meet in, of course did not convene, or employ the undersigned, circumstances certainly unfavorable to that once flourishing Lodge, their house having been destroyed by fire. Thence to Washington Lodge, No. 3, in Port Gibson, Claiborne county, in May. Here the Lodge was not convened, consequently the undersigned cannot speak of the situation of said Lodge. Thence to Grand Gulf, No. 41, at Grand Gulf, in May. Here much good was done and great improvement discernible since the former visit to that Lodge. Thence to Gallatin Lodge, No. 25, Copiah county. A considerable amount of work is done in this Lodge. The brethren are cordial and zealous. An evident improvement has been made in the affairs of the Lodge within the last year. Thence to Quitman, No. 18, (second visit), in May, by special invitation; found the brethren still desirous of instruction but somewhat deranged in their internal polity. Thence to Raymond Lodge, No. 21, at Raymond, Hinds county. Much work is done in this Lodge, and great zeal and good will evinced by the fraternity. This Lodge is certainly in a very flourishing condition. Thence to Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, and Ancient York Lodge, No. 38, in June. These Lodges cannot be said to have improved or declined much in the last year. "The pressure of the times" has evidently had its influence upon them. The undersigned visited Macon Lodge, in Noxubee county, in

August, and found the craft in great want of Masonic knowledge; zealous in the cause; peace, harmony and brotherly love prevailing among them. Thence to Brooklyn Lodge, U. D., in the same county. This Lodge bids fair for the welfare of the craft, the members evincing that zeal for the institution which should ever characterize the Mason. Thence to Columbus Lodge, No. 5, in Lowndes county, in August. This Lodge still continues to maintain its high character and is in a flourishing condition. Thence to Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, Monroe county, September. Great good has been done here, as may well be expected from so many of its members belonging to the Church. Thence to Ripley Lodge, No. 47, Tippah county, in September. Found this Lodge much in want of Masonic light. This Lodge is young and has had less opportunity to receive instruction than some of her sister Lodges; yet peace and harmony prevail among her members. Thence to Salem Lodge, No. 45, in the same county, in September. This Lodge is in a very flourishing condition, considering that it is quite in its infancy. Thence to Holly Springs Lodge, No. 35, in Marshall county, in September. This Lodge is also in a flourishing condition and ranks high among the Lodges of the State, for work and good discipline. Thence to Hernando Lodge, U. D., DeSoto county, in September. Here great good was effected; much work on hand, and a great desire for Masonic knowledge manifested by the members generally, who are zealous, intelligent and religious. In December the undersigned visited Leake Lodge, No. 17, Yazoo county. The same remarks apply to this as to the Lodge last mentioned. They may be said to be truly in a most flourishing condition. Thence to Yazoo Lodge, No. 42, Yazoo City, in December. The remarks applied to the two last named Lodges will apply to this. Visited Canton Lodge, No. 28, Madison county, in December, but was not employed to lecture, therefore cannot speak of its condition. Thence to Pearl Lodge, No. 23, Hinds county, January, 1842. The same remarks apply to this Lodge as to Canton Lodge. The undersigned next presented himself to Clinton Lodge, No. 16, in the same county, but was not employed, yet he must state, he is acquainted with all the circumstances and standing of this Lodge; for some years past it has evidently been declining for want of Masonic energy; indeed, in many instances, on their regular meetings, members could not be got together to form a Lodge. Coldness, apathy and want of Masonic zeal prevail here to the fullest extent. It may be further stated, however repugnant to the feelings of your officer, who is a member of said Lodge, it is no less true than unpleasant.

It was the intention of the undersigned to have visited every Lodge in the State, whether working under charter or dispensation, believing it to be his duty to the fraternity, but owing to severe indisposition and long confinement at several points, in the upper as well as lower parts of the State, he did not visit the following Lodges, to-wit: Oxford, No. 33; Grenada, No. 31; Carrollton, No. 36; Greensboro', U. D.; Oakland, U. D.; Lexington, No. 24; Coleman, No. 29, and Paulding, U. D.

The undersigned is unwilling to close this report without remarking that he may possibly have represented some of the Lodges contrary to their expectations, and think an injustice has been done them, but this was not his intention. He has endeavored to report them as they appeared to him. In every Lodge, he is happy to say, there are members who adorn their profession by such a walk and conversation as exert an wholesome influence over the Craft, even where Lodges themselves may "*need instruction*," or "*want Masonic light*." He is also happy in being able to say that, although evidences of the pressure of the times, are to be met with in every city, town and village, through which he has passed; yet, Freemasonry rests firmly as ever upon her immutable and indestructible basis—the eternal principles of *Truth* and *Justice*! It is true the embarrassed situation of the State in a pecuniary point of view, has to some considerable extent, impeded the growth of Masonry, by preventing the completion of Masonic edifices already begun and the commencing of others; also in crippling the energies of many gentlemen who, under favorable circumstances, would have attached themselves to the order. But the undersigned,

from present indications, entertains the belief that better times are not far distant; that the institution, so far as he is able to judge, is in a more flourishing condition, than for several years past.

The undersigned cannot but sincerely regret his inability to visit all the Lodges of the State. Such, however, was the will of an All-wise Overruling Providence. Indisposition alone prevented his discharging faithfully the high trust and responsible office confided to him by the Grand Lodge; and of taking affectionately by the hand, many brethren with whom he has been long acquainted and may never have pleasure of meeting again while in this earthly Tabernacle. He has been long devotedly attached to the order and expects to die in the true principles of the Masonic faith. Finally, the undersigned would most sincerely invoke the blessings of Heaven upon not only this Grand Lodge and all the Subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction, but upon all the members of the fraternity wherever they may be found upon the globe; and that when they shall have faithfully wrought out their working hours on earth, they shall be called to that eternal refreshment in the Grand Lodge above, where the Supreme Architect presides, forever reigns.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

DAVID J. WHITE, Grand Lecturer.

On motion of Bro. Tappan, the report was received.

On motion of Bro. Wilson, a Committee of three, on Pay and Mileage of representatives, was appointed by the M.: W.: Grand Master, to-wit: Bros. Wilson, Vannatta and Cotton.

Bro. Cooper called from the table his resolutions relating to Masonic school.

Bro. Hurst moved to refer to committee to report next year, which motion, together with the resolutions were laid upon the table.

Bro. Lynch offered the following:

Resolved, That from and after this Communication no one but Past Masters *by office*, and Past Grand Officers, shall be eligible as officers of this Grand Lodge.

And after some discussion withdrew the same, whereupon Bro. Wilson offered the following:

Resolved, That from and after this Communication no one but Past Grand Officers and Past Masters, shall be eligible as officers of the Grand Lodge.

And, on motion of Bro. Cooper, said resolution, as an amendment to the Constitution, was laid upon the table to be acted upon by next Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Vannatta,

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, it is inexpedient to appoint a Grand Lecturer for the ensuing year.

Bro. Thos. J. Johnston called up his resolution relative to the dues of Lafayette Lodge, viz:

Resolved, That Lafayette Lodge, U. D., have until the next Grand Annual Communication to pay its dues to the Grand Lodge, which was adopted.

Bro. Cooper offered the following:

Resolved, That 20 per cent. of the receipts of the Grand Lodge be appropriated to the purpose of forming a school fund.

Bro. Hurst called up the other resolutions of Bro. Cooper upon the same subject, and, upon his motion, all were referred to a Committee of three to report next year.

Whereupon the chair appointed Bros. Hurst, Vannatta and Tappan, the Committee.

Bro. Bumpuss offered a resolution to remove the Grand Lodge from Natchez.

Bro. Tappan moved to reject the resolution, whereupon it was withdrawn by the mover.

Bro. Vannatta offered the following :

Resolved, That the eighth section of the first article of the Constitution be so amended as to strike out the word "Natchez" and insert "Vicksburg."

On motion of Bro. Tappan, said resolution was rejected.

On motion of Bro. Stevens, the Committee on Pay and Mileage, were instructed to make a report as soon as practicable.

The representatives of Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, and Ancient York, No. 38, had leave of absence granted them for the remainder of the session.

On motion of Bro. Thomas J. Johnston,

Resolved, That Lafayette Lodge, U. D., be allowed to obtain possession of the jewels of the old Lodge of that name, formerly located and in operation at Winchester.

Resolved, That our brother, the Past R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Thomas P. Falconer, be and he is hereby authorized to collect all the notes due said old Lodge, and pay the same into the treasury of the Grand Lodge, as far as they may go in liquidation of the dues of said old Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till three o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

Representation same as in the morning, with the exception of the absence of the Vicksburg delegation.

The Grand Officers elect were then installed; the Grand Master elect by the Past Grand Master, and the other officers elect by the new Grand Master; and took their respective stations.

The Grand Secretary presented the accounts of F. O. Wadsworth and Wm. H. Pierce & Co., which were referred to the Committee on Accounts.

On motion of Bro. Eastburn,

Resolved, That Sterling Lodge be allowed the use of the jewels of the late Leaf River Lodge, and Bro. Thos. P. Falconer is hereby authorized to deliver them to said Lodge.

On motion of Bro. S. H. Johnson,

Resolved, That Gallatin Lodge, No. 25, have time until the next Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge to pay her dues to the Grand Lodge for the year 1841.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report :

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report, That returns have been received, since their first report, from Canton Lodge, No. 28, and that said Lodge is represented by Bro. P. L. Mitchell.

J. R. HEWITT,
E. G. MCKEE,
WM. P. MELLEN,
Committee.

The Committee on Pay and Mileage made report through their chairman, as follows :

The Committee on Mileage and per diem compensation beg leave to report,

that from any information within their power they are unable to determine the correct distance to and from the different Lodges now represented in this Grand Lodge, nor can they correctly estimate the amount of per diem compensation, until the adjournment of the Grand Lodge. The different representatives possess the best information upon the subject of distances of their Lodges. Your committee recommend that the distance be computed by the nearest mail route, unless the most frequently travelled road is nearer. Your committee do not believe that proxies of Lodges who do not reside within the Jurisdiction of the Lodge represented by them, are entitled to any compensation, either as per diem allowance or for mileage. Your committee recommend that each representative make a statement of the distance to and from his Lodge, and that the Secretary estimate the amount due him, and that your committee be discharged.

G. A. WILSON, Chairman.

The report was received and adopted.

Bro. Bumpuss moved the appointment of a delegate to represent this Grand Lodge in the Convention of Masons, to be held at Washington City, in March next; and upon the question being put, it was decided in the negative.

On motion of Bro. Stevens,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary have two hundred and fifty copies of such parts of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge as he may deem proper, printed and distributed as customary.

The Committee on accounts reported that they had examined and found the Grand Steward and Tyler's account correct.

The same committee also reported back the accounts of F. O. Wadsworth and Wm. H. Pearce & Co., and recommend that they be referred to the Grand Secretary, and to be paid upon his allowance; which was agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Mitchell, the account of Wells & Quarterman, for repairs, was also referred to the Grand Secretary, with same instructions.

On motion of Bro. Stevens,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to our worthy brother, D. J. White, for the able and diligent manner in which he has discharged the duties of Grand Lecturer.

On motion of Bro. Mitchell,

Resolved, That the next regular Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge be held on the third Monday of January, 1843.

On motion, the Grand Lodge then adjourned *sine die*, and was closed in Ample Form.

WM. P. MELLEN,

Grand Secretary.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1843.

NATCHEZ, Monday, January 16th, 1843.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi was opened in Ample Form.

PRESENT:

M. W. GEORGE A. WILSON.....	Grand Master.
R. W. SAMUEL COTTON.....	Deputy Grand Master.
JOHN M. DUFFIELD.....	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
WILLIAM H. HURST.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
JAMES A. STEVENS.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
PITT THOMAS.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
W. H. B. LANE.....	Grand Chaplain.
THOMAS C. FINNEY.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
WM. C. CHAMBERLAIN.....	Grand Pursuivant.
D. H. LANE.....	Grand Steward & Tyler.

The following named Representatives of Subordinate Lodges appeared, presented their credentials, and took their seats:

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—Wm. P. Mellen.
 Andrew Jackson, No. 2—Thomas C. Finney.
 Hiram, No. 9—George Newman.
 Clinton, No. 16—George H. Gray.
 Raymond, No. 21—Robert Brown.
 Gallatin, No. 25—John N. Hammill.
 Vicksburg, No. 26—B. S. Tappan and W. D. Davenport.
 Coleman, No. 29—J. H. Harris and Hamilton Cooper.
 Olive Branch, No. 34—Azel B. Bacon.
 Holly Springs, No. 35—George A. Wilson.
 Liberty, No. 37—David Jewitt and William R. Carter.
 Ancient York, No. 38—William H. Hurst and Pitt Thomas.
 Yazoo, No. 42—James A. Stevens.
 Shady Grove, No. 43—Thomas A. Willis.
 Salem, No. 45—W. Y. Goodall.
 Benjamin Franklin, No. 46—W. C. Chamberlain.
 Hernando, No. 51—D. J. White.
 Locke, No. 52—John M. Duffield.
 Lafayette, No. 53—Thomas J. Johnston.
 Sterling, No. 54—James McDougald.
 Chulahoma, U. D.—Thomas F. Davis.

Mississippi, U. D.—Charles Tullis, E. D. Pickett and Charles M. Nash.
Harrison, U. D.—J. E. Watts.

The M^r. Rev. Grand Chaplain addressed the Grand Lodge.

The following Standing Committees were appointed by the Grand Master:

On Foreign Communications—J. M. Duffield, David Jewitt and W. Y. Goodall.

On Complaints and Appeals—William H. Hurst, H. Cooper and Thomas J. Johnston.

On Subordinate Lodges—D. J. White, James A. Stevens and William C. Chamberlain.

On Accounts—James McDougald, Robert Brown and John N. Hammill.

On motion of Bro. Chamberlain,

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to the Rev. Bro. W. H. B. Lane, Grand Chaplain, for the able and instructive discourse delivered by him this day.

The Grand Secretary presented his annual report and his account current, which were referred to the appropriate committees.

To the M^r. W^r. Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The Grand Secretary, in presenting his annual account, begs leave to state, that, in accordance with the resolutions of the Grand Lodge, charters have been issued to Hernando, Brooklyn, Sterling, Locke, Greensboro' and Lafayette Lodges, and dispensations to Chulahoma and Mississippi Lodges. But one dispensation has been issued by order of the M^r. W^r. Grand Master during the past year, and that was to brethren at Garlandsville, the Lodge to be called "Harrison."

Since the last Grand Annual Communication, returns have been received from Washington, No. 3; Columbus, 5; Olive Branch, 34; Carrollton, 36; Liberty, 37; Ripley, 47, and Greensboro', U. D., and the dues of said Lodges, with the exception of small balances due from Carrollton, Olive Branch and Greensboro', have been paid.

Returns have been received from Pythagoras, No. 48. Fifty dollars of the dues of said Lodge, which were subsequently mailed, directed to the Secretary of the Grand Lodge, as stated by W^r. William M. Curtis, Master of said Lodge, and certified by the Postmaster at Middleton, the undersigned exceedingly regrets to say, never came to hand. From an examination of the records of the post-office in this city, he entertains no doubt that the letter arrived safely at Natchez. Salem Lodge, as the undersigned is informed by letter from that Lodge, made their returns by mail and forwarded, at the same time, fifty dollars on account of dues, sometime in January last, directed to Bro. D. J. White. Bro. White says he did not receive the letter, although while here, during the session of the Grand Lodge, he made daily inquiries at the post-office.

Bro. J. W. Hornsby, S. W., of Bowie Lodge, No. 44, forwarded to the undersigned, in March last, the charter of said Lodge, stating, at the same time, that said Lodge had "dissolved." I felt it my duty to protest, in the name of the Grand Lodge, against the proceeding until the dues of said Lodge were paid. Since then I have received from the Master of said Lodge, W. Thomas H. Watts, a communication informing me that he then had in hand part of said dues, and promising to forward them with the regular returns at this Communication.

From Monroe Lodge, No. 39, assurances have been received of their intention to comply with the requisitions of the Grand Lodge, but no returns have been made nor dues paid. The depreciation of the money in their treasury is the apology given for not forwarding the dues.

*Returned through General Postoffice, as ascertained since report was made.

Hiram Lodge, No. 9, has given an order in favor of the undersigned, in payment of the dues of said Lodge, which order will probably be paid during the present session. In consideration of which and by direction of the Grand Lodge, a duplicate of the original charter to said Lodge (the original having been destroyed by fire) has been issued, and there is good reason for believing that said Lodge will go on prosperously.

No answers have been received to the letters of the Grand Secretary, addressed to Clinton, No. 16; Eastern Star, No. 27; Grand Gulf, No. 41, and David J. White, U. D., nor have any returns or dues of said Lodges been received.

The document annexed, marked "A," from Canton Lodge, No. 28, is respectfully submitted to the Grand Lodge, with the remark that other complaints of the same kind, have informally been made against other Lodges—as well as complaints of the admission to membership, of persons under suspension for non-payment of dues in other Lodges.

The rooms in the basement story of the Masonic Hall are under rent to good tenants at \$15 and \$10 per month, each.

The undersigned feels gratified that he is enabled to state that the receipts into the treasury of the Grand Lodge for the ensuing year will be more than sufficient, in all probability, to pay all the debts of the Grand Lodge and make the necessary repairs upon the building.

It will be safe to estimate the receipts, from all sources, from \$1500 to \$2000, and the expenditures, including per diem allowance and mileage of the representatives, about \$900, allowing the remainder for the payment of debts and repairs.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WM. P. MELLEN, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary's account current shows total receipts, \$2,679 44, including some "Brandon," "Railroad" and other uncurrent funds. The Grand Treasurer's account shows disbursements: Pay Roll, \$417 64; Grand Lecturer, on account, \$600 00, and sundry other disbursements, and on hand, in uncurrent funds, \$697 50.

A communication from L. W. Evans was presented by Grand Secretary, and on his motion was referred to Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned until Tuesday, 17th January, 10 o'clock, A. M.

TUESDAY, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Representation of Subordinate Lodges same as yesterday, with the additions of the following, to-wit:

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—Andrew Brown.

Pearl, No. 23—Thomas C. Cropper.

Lexington, No. 24—William Oliver.

Oxford, No. 33—John F. Cushman.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report:

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report, that returns have been received at present communication from the following named Lodges, and that they are represented as follows, to-wit:

Harmony, No. 1—William P. Mellen.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—Andrew Brown, Thomas C. Finney.
 Hiram, No. 9—George Newman.
 Raymond, No. 21—Robert Brown.
 Pearl, No. 23—Thomas C. Cropper.
 Lexington, No. 24—William Oliver.
 Gallatin, No. 25—John N. Hamil.
 Vicksburg, No. 26—B. S. Tappan, W. D. Davenport, T. Williamson.
 Coleman, No. 29—John H. Harris, Hamilton Cooper.
 Oxford, No. 33—John F. Cushman.
 Olive Branch, No. 34—Azel B. Bacon.
 Holly Springs, No. 35—George A. Wilson.
 Liberty, No. 37—William R. Carter, Daniel Jewett.
 Ancient York, No. 38—William H. Hurst, Pitt Thomas.
 Yazoo, No. 42—James A. Stevens.
 Shady Grove, No. 43—Thomas A. Willis.
 Salem, No. 45—W. Y. Goodall.
 Benj. Franklin, No. 46—Wm. C. Chamberlain.
 Hernando, No. 51—David J. White.
 Locke, No. 52—John M. Duffield.
 Lafayette, No. 53—Thomas J. Johnston.
 Sterling, No. 54—James McDougald.
 Mississippi, U. D.—E. D. Pickett, Charles Tullis, Charles M. Nash.
 Chulahoma, U. D.—Thomas F. Davis.
 Harrison, U. D.—James E. Watts.

The By-Laws of Hernando, No. 51, have been examined and approved, and also the amendment to the By-Laws of Raymond, No. 21.

A petition for a new Lodge at Fayette, Jefferson county, has been presented, but it is unaccompanied by the recommendation of the nearest Lodge to that place, which is required in all cases of petition for a dispensation, by the Laws of the Grand Lodge. It is advised by this Committee, that a dispensation be issued by the Grand Secretary, upon the petitioners procuring such recommendation.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

D. J. WHITE,
 J. A. STEVENS,
 WM. C. CHAMBERLAIN.

On motion of Bro. Hurst, the communication from Canton Lodge, No. 28, was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The M. W. Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committee:

On Unfinished Business—Robert Brown, Thomas A. Willis, John F. Cushman.

Bro. Bacon presented a memorial from the W. M. and others of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, which was, on his motion, referred to Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

On motion,

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Select Committee to whom was referred the memorial of Lawrence W. Evans, made the following report:

The undersigned, your Committee, have examined into the matter of the communication of Lawrence W. Evans, relative to Hernando Lodge, No. 51, and beg leave to report that they find nothing therein requiring the action of the Grand Lodge.

WM. H. HURST,
H. COOPER,
T. J. JOHNSTON,
Committee.

Bro. Hurst, from the Select Committee appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication, to whom was referred the subject of a Masonic School, made the following report :

The Committee, to whom was referred the resolution offered at the last Convocation of this Lodge, have not had it in their power to give the necessary attention to the subject which its importance demands, and, therefore, beg to submit the following imperfect report as the result of their reflections rather than the conclusion of a thorough examination.

Our institution originally was not established for the sole purpose of mutual protection or reciprocal benevolence. Charity, which makes up so much of its utility and excellence, was not the only object of the great founders of our Order. True it is that the obligations of Masonry are in one sense of the term limited, for that benevolence which is universally diffused is of no more utility than the escaped vapor which when concentrated and directed, propels with unexampled velocity the largest and proudest of our ships, but when abandoned and freely exposed in the open air is of no more power than passing mist. Our institution has often been assailed with the charge of selfishness and reproached because its objects were supposed to be merely mutual or reciprocal charity; the preacher hath said "Charity begins at home," and Masonry never intended it should end there.

The great founders of Masonry knew that by combinations and by allied labor only, could great and important conclusions be arrived at, or indeed could great and important undertakings be accomplished. Living as they did at a time when the human intellect was in its infancy, feeble only from a want of proper knowledge of its power and not from any lack of strength, they saw the only door then open to acquire that knowledge and at once they entered. To them it was given first to explore what had been hidden from all eyes, and in their mystic association was science first cradled. The skill which in after years opened to the gaze of mankind the various systems of the universe and discovered the sun's pathway in heaven, received its first lessons in a Masonic Lodge; there was it fostered and nourished until bursting its swaddling clothes it stood forth in the full vigor of accomplished manhood. The chief end of the association, was not then merely fraternal affection, or that charity begins at home and expires when passing out over the threshold, but it embraced in its scope that universal benevolence towards all mankind, which, in seeking to make them wiser is sure to make them better. This it is true would greatly tend to the advantage of the Order, and if you call this selfishness, 'tis a wise and generous selfishness.

Ages have elapsed since the glorious work was commenced, the liberal arts and sciences thus originally fostered and cherished have now taken deep root and have spread far and wide. But will it do for us now to abandon this great first principle of our great founders? Operative Masonry has long since been abandoned or at least considered unnecessary for communion in the fraternity, and if now we should deny to the liberal arts and sciences the protection which our Order first gave them, may we not fear that the world may find a verdict of guilty against us upon the charges of idleness and uselessness? They say now that the Order makes no man the moral and just, and many are the instances of reproach and shame they can truly point at, as your Committee are with regret compelled to admit. You do not teach any knowledge or science in your Lodges which make men either wiser or better; and the very art which first

united your great founders is unknown among you; the sciences which their lives were devoted to promote are abandoned that you may become enervated and enfeebled by devotion to those things that neither give you knowledge or virtue. This is language of daily use, the Mason hears it repeated at every corner of the street; he feels, too, with mortification, that if it is not true, it is at least a plausible charge.

In other States the fraternity have felt this and set their shoulders to the wheel. Virginia, the great mother of States, has now in successful operation a school for education of the orphans of deceased brethren, high in fame, esteemed as one of the very best institutions of that ancient and renowned Commonwealth. Tennessee has taken initiatory steps for the establishment of an Orphans' Asylum, and shall the brothers here in Mississippi; be the last to move forward in so good, so just a cause? Your Committee trust that it is only necessary to bring the attention of the Lodge to bear on this subject, and their hopes will be cheered by some definite action.

The report of the Secretary shows us that the financial condition of the Lodge is now in the most flourishing state, and there is nothing now wanting to the consummation of their hopes and wishes, but that the brothers may look their duty firmly in the face with the determination not to shrink from it. Last year two of your Committee attempted to procure the repeal of a resolution, which in its operation, tended to dissipate the means of the Lodge upon objects which, although good in themselves, tended greatly to diminish the powers of the Lodge and to impair its usefulness. We allude to the per diem pay of the members from Subordinate Lodges in attendance upon this Lodge. It would seem to your Committee that all Lodges, if properly managed, would have ample means to pay their representatives, and leave the funds of the Grand Lodge in the hands of its officers that they might have the application of those funds left entirely to the discretion of the Grand Lodge. It did seem to us a mockery, that we should, as members of the Blue Lodge, contribute our money to the Grand Lodge and then call upon them to return to us again, that with which we have freely parted. The Grand Lodge, having no regular paying members, depends upon the Subordinate Lodges for the means of contributing to charitable purposes, and indeed for its entire monied power. It was last year the earnest hope of your Committee that this per diem allowance should be stricken off; and if no more could be done that much, at least, would be set aside annually as a school fund. It might have been as now objected, that the sum was too small; that is true, but surely that we cannot do all we desire, is a most unwise reason why we should do nothing. All of the great leading objects of Masonry, seem to point out the establishment of a school, as one of the highest and holiest of our duties. How often do we see, and see with regret, the orphan children of deceased brethren, destitute not only of the ordinary comforts of life, but growing up in ignorance and vice, or left to the capricious benevolence of individuals, without guide or direction, and as they leave off the feeble virtues of infancy gradually adopting the garb of a vicious manhood, until at length they enter upon the theatre of life, enemies of all virtue, because they have not intelligence to comprehend it. Establish this school, and if we cannot save all we may save some.

Your committee believe that should this Lodge undertake this, which your committee think, most important establishment, if you will, by your action, give assurance that it is your purpose to do this by free and voluntary contributions, you would in less than one year from this time, be fully enabled to open a school of high reputation, and where all alike, the children of Masons and those not of the fraternity, might learn lessons of true virtue, and where destitute orphans might find a refuge, not merely from poverty, but from ignorance and vice. We are well assured that should you once put your shoulders to the wheel, should you call on the fraternity for assistance in this good cause, that call would be promptly and generously met. It has been suggested by several, that the establishment of a school conducted upon the principles of Princeton Academy in Kentucky, would here be eminently useful, and could

be most cheaply carried out. This establishment is situated in a fertile and flourishing part of the State, and attached to it is a small farm, on which the students labor in their hours of recreation ; thus while in other academies the hours of relaxation from study are devoted to idle pastime, there, though equally invigorating with regard to health, their time is usefully employed by being devoted to the production of the necessaries of life, and accustoming them to a life of labor, which may, in all probability, be the future fortune of their lives. On this plan the cost will be but small. In the county of Hinds, Madison or Warren, some two hundred acres of land, situated in a healthy part of the country, could be purchased for the sum of \$1000, with probably all the buildings at present necessary. A teacher might be employed at \$1000 per annum, and five hundred more would give a sufficiency of stock on the farm to supply its immediate wants. Your committee have no doubt that all but the salary of the teacher could easily be supplied by subscription. And if we were fortunate in the selection of a teacher, the instruction fees would soon pay his salary and leave in the hands of this Grand Lodge the full amount of \$1000 per annum, to be devoted to the education of the orphan children of deceased brethren. This plan, however, is one not sufficiently matured by your committee, to permit them to urge its adoption—'tis a mere suggestion in a crude shape—the great object of the committee is to prevail on the Lodge to set aside a school fund, and preserve it at all times from any invasion for any other purpose. Your committee believe that there is no more sacred duty imposed upon the fraternity than the establishment of some institution of this kind. The annual dues of the Subordinate Lodges will then be felt and seen, and an institution which has lasted for ages upon ages, and through all time has struggled with calumny and detraction, may, when the tongue of slander is heard, point to her institution as her defence ; and it may too, in all probability, point to some of the children she has raised high in fame and character, ornaments of their country and their generation, as her justification.

In conclusion, your committee would respectfully submit the following resolutions for the consideration of the Lodge :

Resolved, That the per diem allowance paid by this Lodge to the representatives of the Subordinate Lodges shall cease, and that both at this convocation and all future convocations, the Subordinate Lodges shall pay their own representatives.

Resolved, also, That the sum of \$..... be set apart annually, as a school fund, which shall not at any time be used for any other purpose.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. HURST,
B. S. TAPPAN.

On motion of Bro. Duffield, the report was received and made the order of the day for Wednesday, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

Bro. Bacon offered the following preamble and resolution, which was adopted, to-wit :

WHEREAS, By the return of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, as printed in the extract of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, at its Grand Annual Communication, in the year A. D. 1839, Bro. GEORGE WATTS, who died the year preceding, a worthy Master Mason in regular standing, and who was buried with Masonic honors, was, by an error of the press, reported rejected.

Ordered, That this Grand Lodge hereby expresses its regret that a mistake so injurious to the memory of our deceased brother, should remain uncontradicted—and that this preamble and resolution be spread upon the printed minutes of the Grand Lodge for the present Grand Annual Communication, as a correction of said error.

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals, by their chairman, Bro. Hurst, made the following report :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals, to whom was referred the memorial of Bro. E. B. Harvey and others, of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report :

That after an examination of said memorial and enquiries made of Bro. Bacon, who represents said Lodge, they are of the opinion that the trial of James L. Jolly, and his expulsion, was altogether unmasonic and illegal, and should be declared void. The charges, however, are of so grave and serious a character, and supported in such a manner, that it is due to the fraternity that they should not be lightly passed over. It is not intended by your committee to express any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the accused, but merely to declare the illegality of his form of trial. They would therefore submit the following resolutions for the consideration of the Lodge :

Resolved, That the trial of James L. Jolly, on the 2d Saturday in January, 1841, before Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, was illegal and unmasonic, and is hereby set aside and annulled.

2. That Olive Branch Lodge be required to order a new trial of said James L. Jolly, which shall be conducted in Due and Ancient Form.

W. H. HURST,
H. COOPER,
T. J. JOHNSTON. •

On motion of Bro. Stevens, the report was received.

On motion of Bro. Hurst, the resolutions therein reported were adopted, and the report agreed to.

The petition for a new Lodge at Fayette was withdrawn.

On motion of Bro. Thomas J. Johnston,

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will go into the election of its officers for the ensuing year on Wednesday, at 3 o'clock, P. M.

Bro. Johnston moved the following :

Resolved, That at the time of electing officers for the ensuing year, the Grand Lodge will elect a Grand Lecturer.

Which, on motion of Bro. Tappan, was laid upon the table.

On motion, adjourned till ten o'clock, A. M., Wednesday, 18th January.

WEDNESDAY, January 18, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The representation of Subordinate Lodges same as yesterday, with the addition of Clinton, No. 16, by George H. Gray.

Bro. Duffield, from the Committee on Foreign Communications, made the following report :

The Committee of Foreign Communications beg leave respectfully to report :

That a journal of the proceedings of a meeting of delegates from several Grand Lodges in the United States has been laid before them, containing matter of deep interest to the fraternity.

This meeting was held in the city of Washington on the 7th of March, last year, and there appeared in it delegates from Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New York, District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina, and Alabama.

Your Committee take up, *seriatim*, the several subjects of value to the craft, which were under consideration before this respectable body.

The delegate from the Grand Lodge of Michigan was not permitted to take his seat, for the alleged reason, that during the prevalence of an anti-masonic excitement in the then Territory of Michigan, the Grand Master of the Territory, Gen. Cass, prudently directed a suspension of Masonic work, until the

storm of ignorant passion had spent its ephemeral force. This Grand Lodge, the Convention said, never resumed its work, but in 1840 sundry brethren met together, and by resolution organized a *quasi* Grand Lodge. No Subordinate Lodge, the Convention says, was then in existence in the State, and, of course, the Grand Lodge thus organized, was informally constituted, and an irregular and illegal body. No censure, however, can attach to the motives, whatever may, to the action of the worthy brethren, who thus innocently traveled out of the pale of Masonic law in their laudable efforts to revive the suspended body. Thus far we represent what the Convention says.

Two newspapers published at Mount Clemens, the town where the body styled the Grand Lodge of Michigan, first met, were before your Committee, containing their proceedings.

This body denies the right of this Convention, composed as it was of delegates forming a minority of the Grand Lodges, and convened solely to regulate work and prescribe Masonic regulations for the domestic government of Subordinate Lodges, to sit in judgment upon the character they assumed. But your Committee must believe that the Convention acted properly in excluding the Michigan delegate, if they had a doubt of the legality of that body. This so styled Grand Lodge of Michigan denies the truth of the statements contained in the report of the Convention, and declare that as the Grand Lodge of the Territory which was certainly duly constituted, was only suspended, it could be revived, by the assemblage of subordinate delegates, and proper organization. And they declare that in June, 1841, delegates from a constitutional number of legally constituted Subordinate Lodges, met and resolved to open a Grand Lodge, and recommended a general resumption of work. If these be facts, your Committee would hesitate to recommend any action in the premises, and suggest that as a full representation of the Grand Lodges in the United States will be had in May in Baltimore, the whole subject may then undergo examination, and until that time, that this Grand Lodge pronounce no opinion.

This convention of delegates was first recommended by the Grand Lodge of Alabama, and its great object was intended to be to provide for uniformity of work throughout the United States. Great similarity was proved to exist in the represented States, but how far this extended could not be known among the unrepresented States. The convention suggest, however, the only feasible plan to secure a perfect conformity of work, and that is a convocation of delegates to be styled Grand Lecturers, to meet, once in three years at least, the first meeting to be held in Baltimore, on the second Monday in May, 1843. Your Committee cordially recommend an agreement to this proposition. They are thoroughly convinced that action of this kind is absolutely necessary for the preservation of those ancient usages, those gray old mysteries, which are worthy of sacred reverence. And they cannot forbear an expression of their earnest hope, that a brother will be appointed by the Grand Lodge, who, to standing in the craft, may unite zeal, intelligence, a talent for observation, and who may represent our Grand Lodge with credit to it and to himself, and should report at the next Grand Annual Communication. A small sum would pay his expenses, and the returns of valuable information he would bring home, cannot be reckoned up in dollars and cents.

The Convention think it necessary that certificates from their Grand Lodges should be exhibited by traveling brethren, who may seek the charities of the fraternity, in lands where they are strangers. This is proposed to protect the institution from the frauds of the undeserving, but as your Committee apprehend that it would be worse to refuse charity to one worthy than to bestow it upon ten unworthy members, and as it would be inconvenient in the extreme, if not impracticable, for every traveling brother, to obtain his Grand Lodge's certificate, we submit no resolution upon the subject.

The Convention censure the practice of receiving promissory notes for fees, instead of demanding payment therefor, before the degrees are conferred, and your Committee unite with them in their condemnation of this injurious custom, and recommend that the Grand Lodge suggest to the Subordinate Lodges, and advise, if not command them, to reform this altogether.

The Convention justly reprobate the transaction of business in any Lodge less in degree than a Master's Lodge. The Grand Lodge of this State imperatively requires, cautious obedience to their rules, inhibiting such transaction of business.

The Convention declares, and your Committee entirely coincide with them, that suspension is deprivation of Masonic privileges for the time of its continuation; and they pronounce illegal the admission of any brother under suspension, to Masonic fellowship and immunities.

Your Committee recommend that the following reports, made to the Convention, be printed with this their report among the proceedings of the Grand Lodge:

"The Committee appointed to enquire into and report upon the subject matter contained in the resolution of the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of Alabama made the following report, which was received, read and confirmed."

"The Committee entrusted with the duty of deciding upon a uniform mode of work for the Lodges of the United States, the great object for which the convention was first recommended by the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of Alabama, and agreed to by our constituents, have to report, that they have duly attended to the duty and have compared with each other, the ceremonies and lectures of the three degrees used in the Lodges of their own constituents, and have extended their enquiries into the Masonic usages in various parts of the United States. The Committee find that amongst themselves there exists a satisfactory degree of uniformity, but that the various modes of practice, arising from the want of a fixed standard of work, have a natural tendency to confuse and disfigure the pure ritual of the Order and will inevitably, if not restrained, encourage broader variations, which will, in the course of time, fix themselves to the permanent injury of the Ancient Institution.

"But your Committee have reason to apprehend that from the absence of delegates expected at this Convention from several Grand Lodges and especially from the absence of all information from the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of Alabama, and from the Lodges of the Great West, that the chief causes of the call of the Convention have not been within their reach and that consequently they are but imperfectly enabled to judge of the extent of the evils sought to be remedied.

Your Committee, however, cannot doubt that although they have not been distinctly and definitely informed of the modes of work in the Lodges of that extensive region watered by the Ohio and Mississippi, enough has been ascertained to warrant them in the declaration that some means should be immediately adopted to check digressions and to establish a uniform method of conferring the degrees. This subject has therefore received the serious consideration of the Committee.

"To accomplish the great object proposed is entirely beyond the powers of the Committee or the Convention. For two days and nights the Committee have been diligently engaged in examining the variations of the different systems, and it they were to proceed in an effort to harmonize in perfection a system which they could pronounce the most rational and most ancient, their labor would fail in effect from the failure of means to promulgate their decision throughout the land and especially to those sections where the information is probably most required.

"Your Committee have therefore agreed, to recommend as the best plan for accomplishing the object contemplated by the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of Alabama, and for preserving according to a pure and unchangeable system, the ceremonies and lectures of the ancient craft: that every Grand Lodge in the United States appoint one or more skillful brethren to be styled Grand Lecturers, who shall meet and agree upon the course of instruction necessary and proper to be imparted to the Lodges and the Fraternity in their several juris-

dictions, and who shall be required to convene at some central place at least once in three years, to compare their lectures and to correct variations.

All which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES HERRING,
JOHN DOVE,
CHARLES W. MOORE,
WILLIAM FIELD,
ISAAC E. HOLMES,
Committee.

Washington, March 9th, 1842."

"*Resolved*, That should the Grand Lodges or a majority of them determine to adopt the recommendation contained in the report of the Committee, respecting the appointment of Grand Lecturers, that it be further recommended by this Convention, that the first meeting of said Grand Lecturers be held in the City of Baltimore on the second Monday in May, 1843."

"The Committee upon the General Regulations, etc., made the following report, which was received, read and confirmed :

"The Committee having in charge that portion of the resolution of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Alabama, which relates to the general regulations involving the interests and security of the Craft, having duly considered such matters as have been proposed for their consideration, take leave to report as follows :

"That they regard the fraternal intercourse of the members of our Institution amongst the most valuable privileges of the Order, which intercourse ought to be encouraged and at the same time guarded by all the means within the ample powers of the Grand Lodges of this Union; free, social, Masonic association, protected by pure principles and the sacred ties of brotherhood, is calculated to expand the kindest sentiments of humanity, to extend the sphere of usefulness of a member far beyond the little circle of his daily walks and duties, and to promote the sweet charities of life amongst all those who can with confidence prefer his claim as a brother or is ready to acknowledge that relationship.

"To promote and extend the intercourse and acquaintance of brethren residing not only in neighboring States, but also, in regions as far from each other as the east is from the west, various means have been suggested to your Committee, the most prominent of which, is the representative system already adopted by some of our Grand Lodges; this system your Committee recommends to the Convention.

As an additional safeguard against the abuse of Masonic privileges by the unworthy, some of whom are constantly prowling through the land, and desiring a support from the charity of the institution to which they are a disgrace, your Committee recommend that the Grand Lodge advise, if they do not deem it necessary to require, their Lodges to demand certificates of the good standing of brethren who are strangers; which certificate should emanate from the Grand Lodge, from the jurisdiction from which they hail. These certificates will not only shield the institution from the undeserving, but will furnish the orphans and widows of deceased brethren, the best evidence of their claims upon the fraternity.

The Committee have been informed that there is a reprehensible practice of receiving promissory notes for the fee for conferring the degrees, instead of demanding payment thereof before the degrees are conferred; this practice is known to some of your Committee to have produced unhappy influences. Its inevitable effect, is to degrade the institution, and it ought to be prohibited.

The impropriety of transacting Masonic business in Lodges below the degree of Master Mason, except such as appertains to the conferring the inferior degrees and the instructions therein, is a subject which has been recently presented to the consideration of the Grand Lodges of the United States, by the M. W. Grand Lodge of Missouri, and, in the opinion of the Committee, ought to be adopted. Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts are not members

of Lodges, nor are they entitled to the franchises of members; to prevent, therefore, the possibility of any interference in or knowledge of the transactions of the Lodge, the confining all business to the Master Masons' Lodges will be found most advantageous and, undoubtedly, is the only correct course of practice.

In the intercourse of your Committee with the fraternity of several of the States, they find that great diversity of opinion and practice has obtained in relation to their delinquent members; some Grand Lodges authorize expulsion from all the rights of Masonry after a fixed time; others suspend a brother until his dues are paid, whilst others maintain, practically, that suspension from a Lodge for non-payment of dues, only disfranchises the delinquent in that particular Lodge, but leaves him at liberty to join any other Lodge and even to visit the Lodge which has disfranchised him of membership. Your Committee are of opinion that uniform legislation in this respect in the States, is essential to the well-being of the fraternity. It is not to be supposed that a Lodge will deprive a worthy brother of his Masonic privileges who is disabled by poverty from contributing to the funds of his Lodge; but unfaithfulness and wilful neglect are equally injurious, and after a limited time, it should be known to all, that suspension will follow until the debt is paid, or, for cause shown, remitted.

Suspension is the highest penalty known to be inflicted for non-payment of dues; and as the effect of this penalty appears to have been misunderstood by some to the extent of rendering it a convenience to the delinquent, rather than a punishment, in that, he enjoys most of the privileges, whilst he sustains none of the burdens of Masonry, your Committee feel bound to declare that the term suspension is a deprivation, for the time being, of all Masonic privileges.

Your Committee have had before them the proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Arkansas, Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio, but find nothing in them necessary to be brought before the Grand Lodge. Your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will, at this Communication, select a brother to proceed to the convocation of Grand Lecturers, to be held in Baltimore on the second Monday in May next, who shall report to the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Subordinate Lodges, as a matter of duty to the Craft, to require payment in money of the fees for each degree before it is conferred.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. M. DUFFIELD, Chairman.

On motion of Bro. Harris, the report was received.

On motion of Bro. Tappan, the first resolution reported was laid upon the table; but, on motion of Bro. Hamill, the same was reconsidered and adopted.

On motion of Bro. Harris, the second resolution was also adopted.

On motion of Bro. Duffield,

Resolved, That after the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, the Grand Lodge will proceed to the election of Grand Lecturer, to attend the convocation of Grand Lecturers at Baltimore, on the 1st of May next.

The report of the select committee on the Masonic School, being the order of the day for 11 o'clock, A. M., came up for consideration. Whereupon, Bro. James A. Stevens offered the following preamble and resolutions, as substitutes for the resolutions reported by the committee:

WHEREAS, It is the opinion of the Grand Lodge that, owing to the pecuniary embarrassments of the country and the want of sufficient means by the Grand and Subordinate Lodges of this State at this time, it is impracticable to estab-

lish any public academy or asylum, as recommended by the committee in their report. And,

WHEREAS, The importance of the subject presented by the committee, of affording the means of education to the indigent orphans of deceased Masons, is one deserving the highest consideration of all good members of our Order, and to promote which demands the continued attention of the fraternity :

Be it therefore resolved, That the Grand Lodge earnestly recommend and urge upon the Subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction, to set apart the amount of — per cent. upon the amount of all the receipts of said Lodges, to constitute a fund to be appropriated to the education of indigent orphans, which fund shall not be appropriated to other purposes.

Resolved, That Committees be appointed by the Subordinate Lodges whose duty it shall be to seek out and send to the schools such orphans as may be found in the vicinity of the respective Lodges; and that the respective Lodges make annual reports to the Grand Lodge of the number of orphans so sent to school, the amount expended in their education, and the amount of the funds raised by said Lodges for said purpose.

2d. That the Grand Lodge will give all possible aid and assistance to the Subordinate Lodges in carrying out the objects of these resolutions.

On motion of Bro. Duffield, the report and substitute were laid upon the table ; but were called up on motion of Bro. T. J. Johnston, and, on his motion, it was

Resolved, That the report and resolutions of the select committee in relation to the establishment of a school for the education of indigent Masonic orphans, together with the substitute offered by Bro. Stevens, be submitted to the consideration of the Subordinate Lodges, and that they be requested to instruct their representatives in the next Grand Annual Communication according to their respective opinions on the subject.

The Committee on Unfinished Business made the following report :

The committee appointed to examine and report on the unfinished business of the last session of the Grand Lodge, beg leave to report that they have examined the proceedings of the last Grand Annual Communication, and find the following to be the only unfinished business, viz :

The preamble and resolution introduced by Bro. Cooper, relative to the formation of a school, which have been referred to a select committee.

2d. That from and after this communication, no one but Past Grand Officers and Past Masters be eligible as officers of the Grand Lodge.

3d. That twenty per cent. of the receipts of the Grand Lodge be appropriated to the purpose of forming a school fund. Referred also to the same select committee.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT BROWN,
JOHN F. CUSHMAN,
THOMAS A. WILLIS.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to ; and question being had upon the adoption of the second resolution reported, the same was decided in the negative.

On motion of Bro. Willis,

Resolved, That it is improper and unmasonic for any Subordinate Lodge to initiate persons residing without the jurisdiction of such Lodge, or to confer the degree of Fellow Craft or Master, upon any person having been initiated in another Lodge, unless such person shall be recommended by such Lodge, and shall produce a certificate of good standing in the Lodge from whence he came.

Bro. G. E. Martin presented a petition from brethren at Fayette, which was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. George H. Gray presented a memorial from Clinton Lodge, No. 16, which was read, and on motion of Bro. Gray, it was

Resolved, That Clinton Lodge, No. 16, be released and forever discharged of all dues and debts of every kind now due to this Grand Lodge, and restored to regular standing and connection as a subordinate of this Grand Lodge, free of all censure, or disabilities, under which said Lodge may have heretofore fallen.

Bro. Bacon presented the following resolutions, which were, on his motion, referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges:

Resolved, That the resolution adopted at the last Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, authorizing the use by Sterling Lodge of jewels of the Leaf River Lodge, and authorizing Bro. Thomas P. Falconer to deliver them to said Lodge, be rescinded, and that Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, is entitled to the use of said jewels.

2. That W. Elijah B. Harvey, Master of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to demand and receive from said Sterling Lodge, or from such officers thereof, or other persons, as may have possession thereof, and thereupon to deliver them to Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 18, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The representation of Subordinate Lodges the same as in the morning.

Agreeably to a resolution adopted on yesterday, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year—which resulted as follows, viz:

M. W. GEO. A. WILSON.....	Grand Master.
R. W. SAM'L COTTON.....	Deputy Grand Master.
JAMES A. STEVENS.....	Grand Senior Warden.
HAMILTON COOPER.....	Grand Junior Warden.
THOS. C. CROPPER.....	Grand Chaplain.
AZEL B. BACON.....	Grand Orator.
THOS. ROSE.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLE.....	Grand Secretary.
WM. C. CHAMBERLAIN.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
PITT THOMAS.....	Grand Junior Deacon.

The delegates from Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, obtained leave of absence for the remainder of the session.

And, on motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned until Thursday morning, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

THURSDAY, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

Representation of Subordinate Lodges same as yesterday, with the exception of that of Vicksburg, No. 26.

The Grand Lodge continued the election of its Officers for the ensuing year, whereupon it appeared that the following were elected :

R. W. THOMAS C. FINNEY	Grand Marshal.
ELEAZER CRAIG	Grand Sword Bearer.
G. EARL MARTIN	Grand Pursuivant.
H. D. LANE	Grand Steward and Tyler.
BENJ. S. TAPPAN	Grand Lecturer.

On motion of Bro. Duffield,

Resolved, That in case the brother selected to attend the Convention of Grand Lecturers in Baltimore, in May, 1843, shall not be able to attend, he shall give due and timely notice thereof to the Grand Master, who shall select some competent brother who can and will repair to the place of meeting; and in case of the decease of the brother now selected, should such unhappy event occur before the proposed meeting, the same duty of selection shall devolve on the Grand Master.

2. That said Grand Lecturer have authority from this Grand Lodge to lecture the Subordinate Lodges throughout the State, upon the three first degrees in Masonry, during the time for which he is elected, to be paid by the Lodge instructed.

On motion of Bro. Hurst,

Resolved, That the Grand Master shall have authority to draw upon the Grand Treasurer for the sum of three hundred dollars, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Grand Lecturer in his attendance at the Convention of Baltimore in May next.

On motion of Bro. Cushman,

Resolved, That Oxford Lodge, No. 33, be released from the payment of the sum of thirty dollars charged against said Lodge for dispensation, the same having been paid for at the time it was issued, and also the sum of forty dollars, which was paid by said Lodge into the treasury, in Brandon money, and was directed to be returned to said Lodge, but which was not done.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report :

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report that they have examined the proceedings of Mississippi Lodge, U. D., and approve of them, and recommend that a charter be issued forthwith. Upon examination of the proceedings of Chulahoma Lodge, U. D., we find them substantially correct, but somewhat informal. Upon an examination of the By-Laws of the same Lodge, we find in Article 3, Section 3, that the Master and Wardens of the Lodge are ineligible to office for more than two terms, which we think conflicts with the spirit of Masonic elections. In Art. 4, Sec. 8, we find that the Secretary and Treasurer have the right of appointing *pro tempore* officers, when they are absent from the Lodge, which we think incorrect. Section 1 of Article 12, conflicts with Article 4, Section 10, of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge. We recommend that the Lodge be instructed to amend their By-Laws in these particulars, and that a charter be granted forthwith to this Lodge.

The By-Laws and proceedings of Harrison Lodge, U. D., have also been examined and approved, and it is recommended that a charter be issued to said Lodge forthwith.

The By-Laws of Coleman, No. 29, and Oxford, No. 33, have been examined and approved.

The first section of Article 7, of the By-Laws of Chulahoma Lodge, U. D., must be stricken out—the remainder of the said By-Laws are approved. It is recommended that a charter issue forthwith to said Lodge.

The Committee find, upon examination of the returns of the Subordinate Lodges, that many of them do not conform to the form prescribed by the Grand Lodge; and we therefore recommend that the Grand Secretary have blank forms printed and furnish the same to the several Lodges, for the purpose of producing uniformity and to save thereby much labor to this Committee hereafter.

No returns have been received, at this Communication from the following named Lodges, nor are they represented, to-wit:

Washington, No. 3; Columbus, No. 5; Leake, No. 17; Quitman, No. 18; Eastern Star, No. 27; Canton No. 28; Grenada, No. 31; Aberdeen, No. 32; Carrollton, No. 36; Monroe, No. 39; Macon, No. 40; Grand Gulf No. 41; Bowie, No. 44; Ripley, No. 47; Pythagoras, No. 48; Brooklyn, No. 50; Greensboro, No. 55.

Clinton, No. 16, is represented by Bro. Geo. H. Gray, but no returns have been made. The action of the Grand Lodge in relation to this Lodge, has anticipated the recommendation of this Committee.

Eastern Star, No. 27, Munroe, No. 39, are in arrears for three years, and Grand Gulf, No. 41, and Bowie, No. 44, for two years; but we recommend that Grand Gulf, No. 41, and Bowie, No. 44, be allowed until the 1st day of May next to comply with the requisitions of the Constitution, and on failure thereof stand suspended until the next Communication of the Grand Lodge; and that Eastern Star, No. 27, and Munroe, No. 39, be suspended from work until said returns are made out and dues paid—and if said returns are not made nor dues paid on or before the first day of July next, that they be required to surrender their charters, debts, jewels and all other property to the order of the Grand Secretary.

David J. White Lodge, U. D., had not complied with the requisitions of the Grand Lodge made at the last Grand Annual Communication, and not having paid their dues nor made returns, the Committee are of opinion that they should be imperatively required to deliver up the Dispensation, jewels and other property of said Lodge, to the Grand Lodge, upon the order of the Grand Secretary.

It is recommended that this Grand Lodge direct the Grand Secretary to give Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, an order on Sterling Lodge for the jewels of the late Leaf River Lodge, 19, inasmuch as Olive Branch Lodge did pay to the Grand Lodge, in 1837, all the dues of Leaf River Lodge—and that the resolution passed at the last Grand Annual Communication, loaning the same to Sterling Lodge, be rescinded.

We recommend that a credit of fifty dollars be given to Pythagoras Lodge, on account, that being the amount of money forwarded by said Lodge per mail, and which was never received; the mailing of said sum of money having been certified by the Postmaster at Middleton.

D. J. WHITE,
JAS. A. STEVENS,
WM. C. CHAMBERLAIN,
Committee.

On motion of Bro. Watts,

Resolved, That Harrison Lodge have until the next Grand Annual Communication to pay its dues to the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Newman,

Resolved, That Hiram Lodge, No. 9, have until the next Grand Annual Communication to pay their dues to the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Accounts made the following report:

The Committee on Accounts beg leave to report, that they have examined the accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and find them correct.

J. McDUGALD,
ROBERT BROWN,
J. N. HAMILL,
Committee.

On motion of Bro. Stevens,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to have two hundred and fifty copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, at the present Commu-

nication printed; and that he send two copies of the same to each Subordinate Lodge in this State, and one copy to each Grand Lodge in the United States.

On motion of Bro. Hamill,

Resolved, That Gallatin Lodge, No. 25, have until the first day of April next to pay their dues to the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Harris,

Resolved, That the Grand Officers elect be installed at 3 o'clock, P. M.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Grand Officers elect were duly installed by the Grand Master, who was first installed by the P. G. M. Robert Stewart.

On motion of Bro. Harris,

Resolved, That the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge be held on the third Monday in January next.

On motion of Bro. Stewart,

Resolved, That a duplicate charter of Warren Lodge, No. 4, which was granted in the year —, to our well beloved brethren in Fayette, Jefferson county, Miss., and which was surrendered in the year —, be issued according to the prayer of the petition now before the Lodge; and that the jewels of said Warren Lodge, No. 4, if they yet remain in the possession of the Grand Lodge, be returned to our brethren—also and that the said Lodge take rank from the present Communication of this Grand Lodge.

2d. That the Grand Secretary be authorized to issue said duplicate charter, so soon as the aforesaid brethren shall exhibit to him a proper recommendation from the nearest Lodge thereto.

3d. That the name of said Lodge, mentioned in the first resolution, be changed to that of Thomas Hinds Lodge, No. —, and that all the liabilities of Warren Lodge, No. 4, devolve upon said Thomas Hinds Lodge, No. —, and be by said Lodge, discharged.

On motion of Bro. Watts,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to order the delivery of the jewels of the first Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge which may forfeit its charter, to the Master of Harrison Lodge, for the use of said Harrison Lodge, until otherwise disposed of by the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Steward and Tyler presented his account, which was referred to the Committee on Accounts, who reported the same correct; whereupon, it was

Ordered, That the Grand Steward and Tyler's account, amounting to \$49 50 be paid.

On motion of Bro. Stevens, (the question being taken by the Grand Secretary) it was unanimously

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are justly due to our M. W. Grand Master, Geo. A. Wilson, for the courteous, dignified and able manner in which he has presided over the Grand Lodge at the present Communication.

The M. W. Grand Master, in answer to the above vote of thanks, addressed the Grand Lodge, and then on motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned *sine die*.

WM. P. MELLE, Grand Secretary.

TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1844.

NATCHEZ, January 15, 1844.

PRESENT:

M.: W.: GEORGE A. WILSON	Grand Master.
R.: W.: THOMAS J. CATCHING	Grand Senior Warden <i>p. t.</i>
WILLIAM COOPER	Grand Junior Warden <i>p. t.</i>
REV. THOMAS C. CROPPER	Grand Chaplain.
THOMAS ROSE	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN	Grand Secretary.
CHARLES A. LACOSTE	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
THOMAS C. FINNEY	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
D. H. LANE	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Lodges represented:

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—Wm. P. Mellen and J. Wells.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—E. Craig and T. C. Finney.

Clinton, No. 16—S. Alexander.

Lexington, No. 24—William Oliver.

Holly Springs, No. 35—George A. Wilson.

Yazoo, No. 42—William J. Leake.

Salem, No. 45—H. W. Walter.

Benjamin Franklin, No. 46—Josiah Marshall.

Hernando, No. 51—J. H. Stubblefield.

Locke, No. 52—Wm. Cooper, C. A. Lacoste and D. H. Mobly.

Lafayette, No. 53—Thomas J. Johnston.

Chulahoma, No. 55—William R. Lanier.

Harrison, No. 57—Isaac V. Hodges.

Tappan, U. D.—George C. Porter.

Eureka, U. D.—William N. Bonner.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form in the Third Degree.

Prayer by the Right Reverend Grand Chaplain.

The M.: W.: Grand Master, Geo. A. Wilson, then addressed the Grand Lodge as follows:

Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi:

Upon meeting you again after a separation of one year, it is to me a source of sincere pleasure to be enabled to state to you that during that period, evidences have been exhibited from all quarters of the Globe that the prosperity of our beloved Institution is rapidly advancing. A praiseworthy and truly Masonic spirit is awakening amongst the members of the fraternity. A zeal commendable in itself, and worthy of so good a cause is becoming enlisted for

its advancement, and we may confidently look forward to a brighter day in the history of our cherished Order.

To all Masons, the cheering prospect will be hailed with true pleasure and gratification. Long the subject of a virulent and vindictive opposition, may I not say persecution, she has still marched onward, until even the prejudices of her enemies have almost disappeared before that quiet and patient submission, with which she has calmly looked on, while slander and falsehood so basely assailed her.

The prosperity of the Order, the happiness of its members, and the usefulness of its works, will continue to increase; if, my brethren, we remain in the practice of those duties enjoined upon us. If looking through the emblems and symbols of Freemasonry, we practice those moral duties, enforce those virtuous lessons, and conform to those holy precepts which are inculcated by them, the result must be, that our own happiness will be secured, the welfare of our fellow men promoted, and the character of our beloved Institution elevated to its proper standing.

You, brethren, of the Grand Lodge, have again assembled—the great head of the Order in our State, for the purpose of interchanging views and opinions in relation to the practice of our rites and ceremonies, and of establishing rules and regulations for the government of those Subordinate Lodges, of which you are the immediate representatives, and although residing in different sections of country, and many of you now meeting for the first time, yet the object of each and all is the same. Masonry is a unit, and the aim of all its members is to live and love in unity. Among you there cannot exist any difference, but such as may arise from mistake in judgment; and while we exercise that courteous and forbearing temper in the discussion of measures that are presented, that kind and charitable construction of the motives of others, which have ever characterized the assembly of the brethren in this hall, we have every thing to hope that the deliberations of this body will result in the accomplishment of its aim, to the entire satisfaction of the whole fraternity, and receive the sanction and approbation of the Supreme and an infinitely wise God, the Grand Master of us all.

There are many subjects of high importance which claim your attention, and which will doubtless receive your serious examination, at the present session of the Grand Lodge. I deem it, however, appropriate upon the present occasion, to call your attention to such matters as, in my opinion, require the especial and definite action of this body at this Communication.

At the last Grand Annual Communication the report of the select committee in relation to the establishment of a school for the purpose of educating the indigent orphans of deceased Masons, together with the preamble and resolutions offered as a substitute for the plan proposed by that committee, were, by a resolution of the Grand Lodge, submitted to the consideration of the Subordinate Lodges. I indulge the hope that definite action has been taken in regard to this matter by the Subordinate Lodges, and that the Grand Lodge, at its present session, may be enabled to arrive at a proper conclusion upon the subject. It is one of high importance and is well worthy your serious consideration. The different propositions are before you in the printed proceedings of the last Grand Annual Communication, and I fervently hope that whatever you may resolve upon, will receive the united aid of all the members of the fraternity throughout the State; that all opposition, if any should exist, to the plan you may propose, will readily yield upon its adoption. I trust, however, I may be indulged to urge upon you to avoid the adoption of any plan which may probably fail in the execution; as such a result would undoubtedly create a very serious, if not an almost insurmountable obstacle to the success of future efforts, when the present pecuniary embarrassments of the country are relieved, and the possession of more means in the treasuries of the Grand and Subordinate Lodges, would enable us to establish a system of education for the benefit of Masonic orphans, the complete success of which would be a source of pride and exultation.

The subject of pre-requisite qualifications of Grand Wardens, has been the source of some investigation in the *Monthly Magazine*, a Masonic periodical, published at Boston, Massachusetts, and as this investigation has arisen from the election of one of the Grand Wardens of this Grand Lodge, at its last Annual Communication, I deem it proper to call your attention to the subject, with the view that such measures may be adopted as in all future elections will settle the difference of opinion which appears to exist in regard to the course which this Body pursued upon that occasion.

By a resolution of the last Grand Lodge, the duty devolved on me, as Grand Master, in the event that the delegate appointed at that session to attend the Convention of Grand Lecturers, to be held in the city of Baltimore, on the 2d Monday of May, in last year, should not be able to attend—to select some competent brother, who would have it in his power to attend, who should represent the Grand Lodge of this State in his stead.

By a letter from our R. W. Bro. Benjamin S. Tappan, who was elected by the Grand Lodge as their delegate, dated the third of April last, I was officially informed that it would not be in his power to attend said Convention. Under these circumstances, the possible existence of which was contemplated by the Grand Lodge in the passage of the resolution referred to, it became necessary for me to make the appointment. This duty required by the resolutions, was imperative; it clearly appearing from the contents of the same, to be the intention of the Grand Lodge, that they should be certainly represented. With the view of having this intention carried out, I immediately made application to such of the members of the fraternity within the State with whom I was acquainted, whose character and qualifications were such as to meet the views entertained by the Grand Lodge, of the importance of the office. Owing to the suddenness of the notice, there only being ten or twelve days left, after the receipt of Bro. Tappan's letter, in which to make the selection, allowing sufficient time to reach Baltimore by the meeting of the Convention, among them I was unable to find one whose convenience it would suit to accept the appointment. To have the fraternity of the State of Mississippi represented in that Convention, appeared, in my view, to be a matter very essential and according to the resolution, imposing upon me the duty of making the appointment in the event that did occur. It seemed that in the opinion of the Grand Lodge, it was an object of paramount importance. In accordance with these views and in discharge of this duty, I proceeded to appoint Bro. John Delafield, Jr., of Memphis, Tennessee, a member of Vicksburg Council. I was induced to appoint this brother in addition to the reasons already assigned, from the fact of my thorough knowledge of his character and qualifications, both as a gentleman and enlightened Mason—having received the three first degrees in Masonry in a Lodge working under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, being entirely conversant with the mode and manner of our work and lectures, and possessing in a more eminent degree than any other of my acquaintances, a knowledge of the history and antiquity of our Order—the selection seemed to me both adequate and appropriate. And I take this occasion to say that the manner in which he discharged the duties of his appointment has fully met, if not exceeded, the favorable opinion of his capacity which led to his appointment, and entitles him to the thanks of the fraternity.

In pursuance of instructions received from me, and with full power to represent this Grand Lodge as their authorized delegate, Bro. Delafield attended said Convention, and on his return, laid before me a copy of the proceedings of the same, which is herewith submitted. The mode of work and lectures (as agreed on by the Convention, after a careful revision of the matters practiced by the fraternity in the several States,) will be fully exemplified by Bro. Delafield in person during the session of the Grand Lodge, and which I am much pleased to inform the Grand Lodge, differs very little, if any, from the mode practised by those Lodges throughout the State, with whom I have had the pleasure of associating.

The principal topics occupying the consideration of the Convention, other

than the reformation of abuses in work, are mainly as follows; and to each of these, I ask at your hands a respectful consideration:

1st. The establishment of a National Masonic Convention to be held triennially, for the purpose of keeping up a perfect purity and unity in work and lectures.

2d. The use of a trestleboard, to promote a uniform system of work in preference to the charts of the day:

3d. The use of Grand Lodge certificates for travelling brethren.

4th. The mission of a delegate from the United States to the Fraternity in Europe, for the purpose of laying a foundation for future intercourse of such a character as shall result in an universal language and work throughout the Globe.

These you will perceive are four auxiliary means for producing one grand object—*universality of fraternal charity*. To this point should all Masons ever direct their efforts. We know no sectarian lines in Masonry, dividing us into distinct fraternities. States and Nations may have their boundaries—Masonry has none. The brother in one State or Nation, is the brother in all.

1st. As differences, from the necessity of preserving our secrets by tradition, must constantly occur, the first effort of the fraternity should be to check them at once, and by a uniform system, extend common benefits to all. This may be accomplished by the establishment of a NATIONAL MASONIC CONVENTION, to be assembled triennially, with such powers as the several Grand Lodges of the United States shall see fit to confer upon it. A Convention of this character would promote all the ends of producing perfect unity in the work and lectures, and would not be liable to such objections as may be urged against a permanent Grand Central Lodge. The Convention only being in existence for ten days or a fortnight in three years, can never be liable to the charge amongst ourselves of usurping arbitrary powers or jurisdiction; while it takes away from our weak and designing opponents the possibility of charging us with political organization, a sin, however, of which they themselves are not quite innocent.

2d. The Trestleboard, if generally adopted, will ensure a perfect uniformity in the lectures throughout the United States, and enable each brother, no matter where his home, to be in perfect accordance with all others in his work. Some objections have been urged against the public ceremonies prescribed by the Convention, so far as relates to the forms of funeral ritual. The objections do not strike my mind as being very forcible or important. Your consideration of them is, however, requested.

3d. The system of Grand Lodge Certificates, will have the tendency to check the travelling of unworthy brethren and imposters, who use the benevolence of the craft only to abuse it.

It is proper here also to observe that the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, at their Grand Communication, have, through their Committee, offered many reasons in opposition to this system. I trust your deliberation may result in a proper conclusion upon the subject, and should a better or more satisfactory plan be proposed to protect our institution from the many impositions that are continually practiced by the unworthy, in procuring pecuniary aid from it, that it may be universally adopted.

4th. The Mission to Europe.—As Masonry is co-extensive with the globe, are we to confine our efforts for the amelioration of man's condition, only to our own people? By no means. And in taking a broad view of this subject, we can easily see how charity will repay itself.

What once was a deed of unusual daring, the tourist crossing the ocean, is now reduced to a safe voyage of a few days. A new era has occurred in the intercourse of nations. Our land is rapidly becoming the home of Europe's surplus population; while, at the same time, commercial energy is so rapidly extending, as to promote no small intercourse on the part of our brethren with foreign lands. Hardly does a vessel now leave our shores, for foreign lands, without bearing some of our beloved brethren. How can these avail them-

selves, at present, of their privileges as Freemasons, abroad? I regret to be compelled to say, that without other means of introduction, it is believed they cannot. If you, brethren, were now to visit the Grand Orient of France, they would not know you. The Lodges of Prussia and England, would, perhaps, find it difficult to reconcile your work, or even language, with theirs. Here, then, is a fundamental error, which ought not to exist—and which must be corrected. The late Convention, although assembled mainly for the purpose of reconciling discrepancies, which were found to exist in the work and lectures of the different Lodges in our own country, had an eye, as all good Masons should, to the promotion of perfect unity throughout the world. To this end, they have suggested the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Convention recommend to the several Grand Lodges, that they each require the officers of the several Subordinate Lodges, in their respective jurisdictions to make out, record, and transmit to them, lists setting forth, as correctly as can be ascertained, the names of all masons residing in the vicinity of each Subordinate Lodge as aforesaid, and that the said Grand Lodges require from brethren so living, without contributing to the fraternity as aforesaid, an annual sum to said Grand Lodges, of a sum of money equal in value to the annual dues, *per capita*, of the Subordinate Lodge in whose jurisdiction they reside, and in failure of said payment being so made, or a suitable excuse rendered therefor, that then the Grand Lodges take such measures as to them shall seem most expedient to enforce the payment aforesaid."

WHEREAS, This Convention have happily agreed on a uniform system of work to be adopted throughout the United States, freed from the defects which had crept in through times past, which system it is believed is truly founded on and closely corresponds with the landmarks of the Order; and

WHEREAS, It is of the highest importance that unity should prevail throughout the world in all things appertaining to Masonry, that brethren of one nation may always be readily recognized and admitted to fellowship in every other; be it

Resolved, That this Convention do earnestly recommend to the several Grand Lodges of the Union, to unite in sending a delegate from the Masonic fraternity of the United States to their brethren in Europe, with a view to lay the foundation of such an intercourse hereafter as shall promote a universal language and work, and extend the blessings of the Order far beyond its present range."

Can this be done in such a manner, as to accomplish the ends proposed, without drawing too largely on the charity funds of our respective Lodges? My opinion tends strongly to its entire possibility, and by following out an idea which seems also, to have been under the contemplation of the Convention. It may perhaps, in its very accomplishment, afford more extensive additions to the funds of the various Grand Lodges, who may unite in carrying out this noble purpose. In Convention it was deemed "expedient, that a work be published, to contain Archaeological research into the history of the fraternity, in the various nations of the world." Now if a delegate be sent abroad—who, while he is accomplishing the more important ends of his mission, will undertake the collection of materials and preparation of such a work, and will furnish a copyright of the same, to be appropriated to a charity fund, to be equally distributed among the several Grand Lodges, who shall have contributed to his expenses, the result will be of threefold benefit to the Order:

1. Its more intimate unity hereafter.

2. A better knowledge of its history and importance; and

3. The increase of the respective charity funds of the several Grand Lodges.

That many brethren can be found possessing superior qualifications for such a task, cannot be contradicted. That those brethren, mindful of the charity taught by their Order, while on such a mission, would undertake such a work for the benefit of the Fraternity, it would be wrong for us to doubt. To the Fraternity, such a work would be of the highest value, and would be readily purchased, not only by the members of our Institution, but by every class and

order of society, as containing most important and valuable historical information. It is estimated there are nearly 120,000 Masons in active practice of the virtues of the Order, in the United States. How many of them would refuse to place in their domestic libraries such a volume?

May it then not be within our power in some such manner, at but small ultimate cost, if any, to send abroad a representative, as the delegate of the combined Grand Lodges of the United States, with a view to the foundation of such measures as shall tend to ultimate unity over the Globe; to provide that every brother from our land, shall be hereafter duly recognized, and entitled there to every privilege of the Order he may enjoy at home; and the better to learn the peculiarities of work abroad, so that we may the more readily distinguish between the true and spurious Masons, who may have emigrated into the jurisdiction of our respective Grand Lodges from foreign countries.

The importance of this subject cannot, I truly believe, be too strongly recommended to the consideration of the several Grand Lodges of the United States. This highly favored land is looked upon, throughout the world, as the home and refuge of the distressed. Immigration is pouring in from almost every clime, and the difficulty to which I have alluded, readily distinguishing our genuine brethren, who hail from European Lodges, has doubtless been witnessed by almost every member of the Fraternity—that charity is badly dispensed, which encourages imposition, and without such intercourse and information, as is necessary to prevent it—and which, in my opinion, can only be accomplished by the plan proposed, we must continue liable to be imposed upon, or in attempting to avoid it, in many, very many instances, refuse assistance, which it is our duty to bestow.

One or two other matters of minor importance, recommended by the Convention, I also beg to refer you to:

1st. The right of a Lodge to try its Master.

2d. The payment of dues by dimitted members.

I have already occupied, perhaps, more of our time upon the subject of this Convention than was necessary, as doubtless you all feel an equal interest in its importance with myself, and without suggestion from me, would give it your most serious consideration.

I would also respectfully solicit from this Grand Lodge, an expression of opinion in regard to the subject of the exclusion of the Jews from admission into the Masonic Lodges, which has been advocated and adopted in some Foreign Lodges. The principle is too well settled among our Lodges, and its correctness too readily acknowledged by all Masons with whom I have conversed—that no religious or political controversy can ever be permitted to raise a prejudicial and discordant voice within the peaceful halls of Masonry, to require any argument in support of the opinion that I entertain, which is, that we should decidedly and promptly condemn any effort of the kind—let it emanate from what source it may—as unauthorized and improper, and contrary to the true genius and spirit of our Institution. Around the altar of Masonry, the Christian and the Jew, the civilized and the savage, all, save alone, that “fool that in his heart hath said there is no God,” can meet as brothers. So let it ever be.

I desire also, to call your attention to the necessity of adopting such measures, as will carry out to its full extent, the object which has been effected by the meeting of the Convention, a unity of work and lectures. This may be done by the appointment of a Grand Lecturer of suitable skill and capacity, to visit all the Subordinate Lodges, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, whose duty it will be, to conform the work and lectures to the system agreed upon and adopted by the Convention. By this means a perfect uniformity can be established, and by the adoption of similar means, in all the States of the Union, that uniformity will be made general and permanent. No other plan at present suggests itself to my mind, by which this object may be effected, and I make the suggestion without any desire that the mode proposed may be adopted in preference to any other plan which may, in your estimation,

be calculated to accomplish the same end. There are doubtless, many other matters which claim your serious consideration, and which will be brought to your attention by the various Standing Committees of the session, upon whom I would most respectfully urge, that they give to the various subjects, submitted to them, such examination as their nature and importance demands.

I cannot close this communication without availing myself of the opportunity afforded of expressing to this Body, my grateful feeling for the high and distinguished honor which they have thought proper to confer upon me, in selecting me as their presiding officer. Twice has this kind partiality of my brethren called me to this exalted station. An honor which a sense of duty would not permit me to decline, though greatly wanting in capacity, to perform the functions of the office, in such manner as their importance demands. To that generous partiality which elevated me to the chair, I confidently appeal to excuse the many errors of which I may have been guilty; among those deficiencies, I am confident, will not be found a want of zeal in the advancement of the prosperity of the institution, or the absence of a desire to sustain its honor and reputation.

On motion of Bro. Wm. Cooper,

Resolved, That the address of the M.: W.: Grand Master be spread upon the minutes, and printed with the Journal of the Grand Lodge.

The M.: W.: Grand Master appointed the following Standing Committees :

On Foreign Communications—Bros. Walter, Leake and Bonner.

On Subordinate Lodges—Bros. W. Cooper, Hodges and Finney.

On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. Johnson, Stubblefield and Hodges.

On Unfinished Business—Bros. Craig, Oliver and Lanier.

On Accounts—Bros. Porter, Marshall and Alexander.

The Grand Secretary made the following report, and presented his annual account current.

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The undersigned, in presenting his annual account current, begs leave to report that since the Grand Annual Communication, Charters, in obedience to the orders of the Grand Lodge, have been issued to Chulahoma Lodge, No. 55; Mississippi, No. 56; Harrison, No. 57; and Thomas Hinds, No. 58. And, by direction of the M.: W.: Grand Master, Dispensations have been granted to Tappan Lodge, at Brownsville, in Hinds county; St. Albans, at Columbia, Marion county; Joseph Warren, at New Albany, Pontotoc county; Asylum, at Woodville, Wilkinson county; and Eureka, Richland, Holmes county.

Returns have been received from Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, for 1842; Grenada, No. 31, for 1842; Washington, No. 3, for 1842; Monroe, No. 39, for 1840, 1841, and 1842; Leake, No. 17, for 1842; and David J. White, U. D.; and the Dispensation to the latter has been surrendered.

In my last report, I mentioned that \$50 remitted by Pythagorean Lodge, No. 48, had not come to hand, and I was directed to credit said Lodge with that amount. During the past Summer, the letter containing said sum was found, and I have charged myself with the amount.

The rooms in the basement story of the Masonic Hall are under rent, to good tenants, for \$262 per annum. Upon the termination of the late leases, by advice of the Deputy Grand Master, I reduced the rents to the above mentioned sum.

No further reduction need be anticipated, but, on the contrary, I think by another season, that the rents may be somewhat advanced.

Some necessary repairs have been done to the building and the pavement in front of the Masonic Hall, in all, amounting to about one hundred dollars—the bills for which will be presented for allowance. Some other repairs to the cornice and the floor in the main passage in the basement story, will have to be done, and it will be necessary to re-copper the gutters.

The Grand Lodge, the undersigned is happy to say, is out of debt, and has a gross income of about \$2000. At the end of the present year, without extra-

ordinary appropriations, there will be a surplus of five or six hundred dollars.
All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. P. MELLEN, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secreeary presented his account current, showing the receipts for the past year to have been \$2073 41, which sum he had paid over to the Grand Treasurer, less \$237 90, the amount of the current expenses of his office for stationery, postage and fees; which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Accounts.

The Grand Treasurer presented his account current, showing his receipts to have been for the past year, \$2520 51, and his disbursements to have exceeded his receipts by the sum of \$2 83; which was also, on motion, referred to the Committee on Accounts.

A petition from several brethren at Marion, Lauderdale county, for a new Lodge, to be called Marion, was presented by Bro. Johnston, and on his motion, it was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Secretary presented a petition from St. Albans Lodge, U. D., which was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. W. Cooper,

Resolved, That a Select Committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the suggestions contained in the M. W. Grand Master's Address.

The Grand Secretary presented the appeal of Wm. F. Davis, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

TUESDAY, January 16th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. W. GEORGE A. WILSON.....	Grand Master.
R. W. THOMAS J. Johnston.....	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
HAMILTON COOPER.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
THOMAS ROSE.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
HENRY B. MILLER.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
THOMAS C. FINNEY.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
REV. THOMAS C. CROPPER.....	Grand Chaplain.
E. CRAIG.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
D. H. LANE.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Lodges represented same as yesterday with the addition of:

Washington, No. 3—Amaziah Ingram, Fred. J. Poor.

Columbus, No. 5—Isaac M. Knapp.

Hiram, No. 9—George Newman.

Raymond, No. 21—R. N. Downing.

Pearl, No. 23—C. R. Przsiminski.

Vicksburg, No. 26—Williamson Smith.

Coleman, No. 29—Hamilton Cooper.

Ancient York, No. 38—S. W. Vannatta.

Sterling, No. 54—John Watts.

Mississippi, No. 56—Charles Tullis.

St. Albans, U. D.—W. P. Coleman.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

On motion of Bro. Walter, the resolution, offered by Bro. W. Cooper, and adopted, referring the Grand Master's Address to a select committee of three, was reconsidered, and on motion of same, all after the word "Resolved," was stricken out, and the following inserted in place thereof:

1st. That so much of the Communication of the M. W. Grand Master as relates to the pre-requisite qualifications of the Grand Wardens, be referred to a select committee of three, to be appointed by the Grand Master.

2d. That portion in relation to the Baltimore Convention, and the exclusion of the Jews, to the Committee on Foreign Communications.

3d. That portion in relation to a school, to a special committee of three, to be appointed by the Grand Master.

4th. That portion in relation to the Grand Lecturer, to a special committee of three to be appointed in the same manner.

Whereupon the Grand Master appointed the following Committees upon said resolutions:

On the 1st resolution—Bros. Precsiminski, H. Cooper and Newman.

On the 3d resolution—Bros. Lacoste, Knapp and Vannatta.

On the 4th resolution—Bros. Coleman, Porter and Alexander.

The resolutions of Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, upon the subject of Masonic Schools, were presented and referred to Select Committee on Schools, already appointed.

Bro. Finney asked to be excused from serving on the Committee on Subordinate Lodges, and on motion, he was excused, and Bro. Knapp appointed on said Committee in his place.

Bro. Watts presented the appeal of S. R. Adams from the judgment of Sterling Lodge, No. 54, expelling him therefrom, and, on his motion, said appeal was referred to Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

Bro. Cooper offered the following resolution:

WHEREAS, We learn, through Bro. Cooper, that the Grand Gulf Lodge is utterly unable to pay the dues to this Grand Lodge, owing to the fact that most of the former members have failed in business, and removed away; and,

WHEREAS, Several Master Masons have removed to that place and are anxious to revive the institution, but are not able to assume all the debts of the Lodge; therefore,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do remit all dues and claims against Grand Gulf Lodge, and that said Lodge is hereby re-instated.

On motion, said resolution was referred to a Select Committee, consisting of Bros. Wm. Cooper, Downing and Watts.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment, the several Grand Officers being in their stations as at morning session.

Bro. John H. Duncan and Bro. H. M. Youngblood, representatives from Thomas Hinds Lodge, No. 58, appeared, presented their credentials, and took their seats.

Bro. Craig, from Committee on Unfinished Business, made the following report :

The Committee on Unfinished Business, beg leave to report that they have examined the proceedings of the last Grand Annual Communication, and find the following to be the only unfinished business, viz : The resolution offered by Bro. Thos. J. Johnston, and adopted by the Grand Lodge in 1843, referring the report and resolutions presented by the Select Committee on Schools, with the substitute offered by Bro. Stevens to the Subordinate Lodges for consideration, and requesting said Lodges to instruct their representatives to this Grand Annual Communication according to their respective opinions on the subject.

E. CRAIG,
W. N. LANIER,
WM. OLIVER,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 10 o'clock, A. M., Wednesday.

WEDNESDAY, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Bro. Luther Barnes, a representative of Brooklyn Lodge, No. 50, appeared, presented his credentials and took his seat.

Bro. Johnston, from the Committee on Complaints and Appeals, presented the following report :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals have had the subject matter of the communication of William F. Davis, who was expelled from Raymond Lodge, No. 21, under consideration, and beg leave to report : That having no other evidence before them, than that in the written statement of said Davis, on the one side, and the verbal statement of Bro. Downing, the delegate from said Lodge, and the solemn decision of the members of said Lodge, on the other; they are of opinion that there is nothing contained in said Davis' communication requiring the action of the Grand Lodge, and ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS J. JOHNSTON,
J. H. STUBBLEFIELD.

Which report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Johnston, from the same Committee, presented the following report :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals, have considered the appeal of S. R. Adams, recently expelled by Sterling Lodge, No. 54, and respectfully ask leave to report : That upon such an investigation of facts, as they have been enabled to make, it appears, that Adams was expelled by said Lodge on the charge of unmasonic conduct, founded upon a personal broil, between said Adams and Bro. John R. Eastman, a member of said Lodge. Adams was charged with no grossly immoral, or dishonorable conduct; but, as your Committee believe, was expelled for an offence, occasioned by a momentary excitement, denied by neither, but sincerely regretted by both the parties concerned, and in which, it was extremely doubtful which was most culpable—the accuser or the accused. Under these circumstances, and in view of the fact that said Lodge, while it has inflicted the highest punishment, known to Masonry, upon said Adams for an offence, which none, not even the best of us, are entirely

innocent, while upon the other hand, it has honorably acquitted Bro. Eastman—your Committee cannot resist the conclusion, that some injustice, at least, has been done the appellant—at any rate, your Committee believe the punishment inflicted upon said Adams, to have been too great in proportion to the enormity of the offence committed.

Your Committee would, therefore, recommend to the favorable consideration of the Grand Lodge, the following resolution :

Resolved, That Sterling Lodge, No. 54, be, and they are hereby requested to grant to, and proceed to give said Adams a new trial upon the charges preferred against him.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOMAS J. JOHNSTON,
J. H. STUBBLEFIELD,
J. V. HODGES.

On motion of Bro. Leake, the report was received and agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

The Committee on Accounts reported that they have examined and found correct the accounts of the Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer, which was received and agreed to.

The Grand Secretary presented the claims of Brown & Price, G. & E. Kennedy, Charles C. Williamson and H. H. Hamilton, for repairs on building; which were referred to the Committee on Accounts.

The election of Grand Officers was ordered to be held at three o'clock P. M. on the following day.

The Select Committee to whom was referred the preamble and resolution, offered by Bro. Cropper, reported: That they deemed the case of the Grand Gulf Lodge, No. 41, a peculiar one, and recommend that the dues of said Lodge be remitted, and the Lodge reinstated.

Which report was received and agreed to. Whereupon, it was

Resolved, That Grand Gulf Lodge, No. 41, be, and is hereby released from all claims of this Grand Lodge, upon said Lodge, for past dues—and the said Grand Gulf Lodge, No. 41, is hereby reinstated, and empowered to proceed in its work.

On motion of the Grand Secretary :

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to examine the cornice to the Masonic Hall, the gutters to the same, and the floor of the passage in the first story, and report the extent of the repairs necessary, and probable cost of the same.

The chair appointed as such committee, Bros. Rose, Ingram and Finney.

Bro. Przsiminski presented the following report :

The select committee appointed under the following resolution : That so much of the communication of the M. W. Grand Master, as relates to the prerequisite qualifications of Grand Wardens, be referred to a special committee of three, to be appointed by the Grand Master," have taken the subject under consideration, and after examining whatever could elucidate the task confided to their investigation, or contribute to their information, beg leave to offer the following preamble and resolutions :

WHEREAS, According to the laws, rules, regulations and usages of Ancient Masonry, the Wardens have a constitutional right to take, in the absence of the Worshipful Master of their Lodge, his station and preside, acting *pro tempore* as Master, with full powers and authority, which practice prevails also with the Grand Lodge; and,

WHEREAS, The Master's station must not and cannot be filled by any one

but a Past Master, duly qualified by a convocation of Past Masters, or by a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons; therefore,

Resolved, That it is deemed unmasonic by this Grand Lodge, to elect any one to fill either of the stations of the Grand Wardens, who are not Past Master Masons.

2d. That, in the absence of the Master of any Subordinate Lodge, the Wardens thereof, if not Past Masters, have no right to take his station, but may select any brother, a member of that Lodge, or any visiting brother, who is a Past Master, to preside; otherwise the station must remain unfilled.

Which was received, and with the resolutions, was laid upon the table and made the order of the day at ten o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

On motion, the Grand Lecturer, Bro. Delafield, exemplified the second degree according to the work of the General Grand Convention at Baltimore.

Bro. Coleman presented the following report:

The select committee to whom was referred that portion of the M. W. Grand Master's address, relating to a Grand Lecturer, beg leave to make the following report:

Having given the subject full consideration, we have arrived at the conclusion that the appointment of a Grand Lecturer of suitable skill and capacity, to be absolutely necessary, that the object of Convention at Baltimore, "a unity of work," may be perfected.

We do not suppose that it comes within the duties of this committee to recommend any mode by which this may be best effected at the cheapest rate; or in what manner, or by whom payment shall be made, believing that the M. W. Grand Lodge will give it their consideration.

W. P. COLEMAN,
GEO. C. PORTER,
S. ALEXANDER.

On motion, said report was received and agreed to.

A petition from the Wardens and ten members of Brooklyn Lodge, No. 50, praying a removal of said Lodge from Brooklyn to Cooksville, was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges reported that they had examined returns from the following named Lodges for the year 1843, and find the same correct, viz:

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 16, 21, 23, 24, 26, 29, 35, 36, 38, 39, 42, 45, 46, 47, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, Tappan, U. D.; Eureka, U. D.; and St. Albans, U. D.

Imperfect and partial returns from Quitman Lodge, No. 18, had been received. The committee had also examined returns from the following named Lodges for the year 1842, viz:

Washington Lodge, No. 3, contains an error of six dollars due Grand Lodge; Leake Lodge, No. 17, correct; Aberdeen, No. 32, correct; Monroe, No. 39, for 1840, an error of four dollars due Grand Lodge; for 1841, an error of two dollars due Grand Lodge; for 1842, an error of four dollars due Grand Lodge.

Extracts from the proceedings of Tappan, U. D.; Eureka, U. D.; and St. Albans, U. D.; and the By-Laws of said Lodges had been submitted to the committee, and upon a careful examination of the same, the committee found nothing conflicting with the Ancient Landmarks of the Order, and recommended that the same be approved, and charters be granted to said Lodges.

They also examined the By-Laws of Chulahoma Lodge, No. 55, and found them correct.

A petition from the requisite number of brethren, praying the grant of a dispensation for a new Lodge at Marion, in Lauderdale county, being strictly correct, the Committee recommended that the prayer thereof be granted, upon payment of the usual fees. The petition of Pythagorean Lodge, No. 48, praying for an extension of time, in which to pay their dues, and the release of

said Lodge from sentence of suspension, has been received, and believing the statements set forth in said petition will justify the adoption of lenient measures, the Committee recommended that the prayer of said Lodge be granted. The Committee would also recommend that all dues accruing and all property and jewels appertaining to the Lodge, heretofore working under dispensation, as D. J. White, be transferred to St. Albans Lodge, U. D., upon the payment of the liabilities of the said D. J. White Lodge to the Grand Lodge, by the said St. Albans Lodge.

No returns had been received from the following named Subordinate Lodges for the year, 1843, viz:

Leake, No. 17; Quitman, No. 18; Gallatin, No. 25; Canton, No. 28; Greensboro, No. 49; Grenada, No. 31; Aberdeen, No. 32; Oxford, No. 33; Olive Branch, No. 34; Liberty, No. 37; Macon, No. 40; Shady Grove, No. 43; Asylum, U. D., Jos. Warren, U. D.

The Committee recommended that the delinquent Lodges be allowed until the first of May, next, to make their returns to the Grand Secretary, after which period, if still delinquent they shall be considered as suspended until the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

The Committee in closing their report expressed its gratification at the very large representation present at this Communication, and the evidence of general prosperity exhibited by all the Lodges within the jurisdiction.

The report was received and agreed to.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to half past 3 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 17, 3:30 o'clock P. M.

The M. W. Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Subordinate Lodges represented, the same as in the morning.

Bro. W. G. Russel appeared, and presented his credentials as a representative from Leake Lodge, No. 17, and took his seat.

The Grand Secretary presented the petition of Bro. Jackson Warner, which on his motion, was referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

Bro. Lacoste presented the following report:

The Committee to whom was referred that portion of the M. W. Grand Master's communication, which relates to the establishment of a Masonic school, beg leave to report: That, they have given to the subject all the attention which they have been able to bestow upon it during the short period of time which has elapsed since their appointment. They have had before them the report of the Select Committee in this behalf, presented at the last Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and the preamble and resolutions offered as a substitute for the plan proposed by that Committee. They have endeavored to ascertain the opinions of the Subordinate Lodges, to whose consideration the whole subject of a school was submitted by a resolution of the Grand Lodge, at its last Annual Communication, and they have given due consideration to the important suggestions contained in the communication of the M. W. Grand Master, touching this question.

The Subordinate Lodges, your committee regret to state, have not all taken the necessary steps to acquaint the Grand Lodge with their action on the subject. Those, whose action has been made known to your Committee, differ in opinion. A majority, however, evidently preferring the plan introduced by the Select Committee of last year, the substance of the substitute proposed as aforesaid.

The three Lodges in Natchez have given a practical negative to the plan of

the Select Committee, and an unequivocal approbation to the substitute referred to, by actual and adequate preparations for the establishment of an independent Masonic School, which, as your Committee are informed, will be opened for the reception of pupils on the first Monday in the ensuing month.

Your Committee are informed of the arrangements adopted by the fraternity in Natchez, for the purpose, and have no hesitation in expressing their belief, that they are such as insure the success and permanency of their benevolent and praiseworthy Institution.

The limited resources of the Grand Lodge forbid the possibility of their undertaking, with any hope of success, the establishment, at this time of a central or general school, adequate to the purpose of educating all who may be entitled, to apply to the fraternity for gratuitous instruction. The only practicable plan, under existing circumstances, in view of this great and cherished object, is the establishment of separate and independent schools by the several Subordinate Lodges, within their own jurisdiction, sustained by their own exertions and governed by their own regulations. It cannot be denied that one of the most imperative duties of the Grand Lodge, is, so far as in its power, to promote and foster the success of such schools, the establishment of which, it has uniformly, heretofore, advised and encouraged.

In accordance with these views, your Committee beg leave to submit for the consideration of the Grand Lodge the following resolutions, viz:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge earnestly recommend and urge upon the Subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction, to adopt immediate and energetic measures for the establishment of Masonic free schools.

2d. That — per centum, of the receipts with the Grand Treasury be set apart, and specially appropriated annually, as a school fund.

3d. That, upon the certificate of any Lodge, that it has established a Masonic school under its jurisdiction, as herein contemplated, in which not less than — scholars are being educated gratis, the Grand Treasurer is hereby authorized to pay to the order of said Lodge, \$ — per annum out of the school fund, payable quarterly, on application of said Lodge.

4th. That the respective Lodges having in charge such schools, make annual report to the Grand Lodge of the number, names, age, and residence of the pupils, sent to such school, during the year, together with a detailed account of the receipts and disbursements on account of the school during the year.

CHARLES A. LACOSTE,
S. W. VANNATTA,
ISAAC M. KNAPP,
Committee.

The report was received, and the resolutions were taken up *seriatim*, and

On motion of Bro. Thomas J. Johnson, all after the word "resolved" was stricken out of the 1st Resolution, and the following inserted, so it reads as amended:

Resolved, That the Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be earnestly urged to encourage and promote the education of the indigent Masonic orphans, in their respective vicinities, so far their abilities extend.

The question being upon the adoption of the 2d Resolution, reported by the Committee, the motion was lost, and the Grand Lodge thereby refused to adopt said resolution. Thereupon, motion was made by Bro. Leake, to reconsider said vote, and the question being taken thereon, the Grand Lodge refused to reconsider said vote.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

THURSDAY, Jan. 18, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

The third resolution, reported by the Select Committee on Schools, being under consideration, Bro. Downing offered the following preamble and resolutions, by way of substitute therefor:

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge having under its consideration the subject of educating the indigent Masonic orphans, a subject upon which they feel a lively interest, and which they wish to see carried fully into effect, so as to extend to every indigent child of a Mason, within its jurisdiction—and whereas, the effect of the resolutions, reported by the Select Committee, if carried into execution, would not contribute to the education of many indigent children of Masons—to the end, therefore, that this Grand Lodge do the greatest good to the greatest number :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge earnestly recommend to the Subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction, the necessity of educating all indigent children of Masons within their respective vicinities, and report the number so educated by them, their names and ages, to the next Grand Annual Communication thereafter.

2d. That if any Subordinate Lodge shall report that they are unable to educate all the indigent children of Freemasons, within their vicinities, the Grand Lodge may then appropriate a sum not exceeding \$100, for each year, for the relief of such Lodge.

3d. That the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, impose a tax upon all brethren who are not members of Subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction—the funds arising from said tax to be set apart for a school fund, for the education, maintenance, and support of indigent children of Freemasons.

4th. That the tax imposed on such brethren shall be \$3 per annum, and that the Subordinate Lodges immediately ascertain the number in their respective vicinities, and place them under the same head with the regular members thereof.

The question upon the amendment, offered by Bro. Downing, being divided.

The first and second resolutions of the amendment were adopted.

Bro. Coleman offered the following as a substitute to the third resolution of the amendment :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge require the several Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, to make out, record, and transmit to the Grand Secretary lists setting forth, as correctly as can be ascertained, the names of all Masons residing in the vicinity of each Subordinate Lodge aforesaid, and that the Grand Lodge require from the brethren so living, without contributing to the Fraternity aforesaid, an annual sum of money equal in value to the annual dues *per capita* of the Subordinate Lodge in whose jurisdiction they reside, and in failure of said payment being so made, or a suitable excuse rendered therefor, that then the Grand Lodge take such measures as shall seem most expedient to enforce the payment aforesaid.

Which substitute was accepted by the mover of the amendment, and question being had on said substitute, it was adopted.

Bro. Downing then withdrew the fourth resolution of the amendment, and substituted the following in place thereof :

4th. That the funds arising from the tax, provided for, by the last resolution, be and the same is hereby appropriated to the education, maintenance and support of the indigent children of our Masonic brethren.

The question being upon the adoption of said fourth resolution of the amendment, it was decided in the affirmative.

The preamble to said amendment was then adopted.

The fourth resolution reported by the Select Committee was then passed, and the report was agreed to as amended.

The report of the select committee on so much of the Grand Master's address

as relates to the prerequisite qualifications of Grand Wardens, being the order of the day for 10 o'clock, A. M., this day, and that hour having arrived, the report was called up, and the second resolution reported by the committee, was withdrawn by leave granted by the Grand Lodge to the committee, on motion of their chairman, and then the report was agreed to.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges reported that since yesterday they have had laid before them, returns from Lodges, Nos. 17 and 50, and found them correct. They had also examined a code of By-Laws, adopted by Leake Lodge No. 17, and found it in accordance with the Constitution of Masonry.

They had also under consideration, the petition signed by a portion of the members of Brooklyn Lodge, No. 50, asking that said Lodge should be removed from Brooklyn to the town of Cooksville. But as the prayer of the petitioners was not concurred in by a large majority of the members of said Lodge, they recommend that the prayer be not granted.

On motion the report was received and agreed to.

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals, to whom was referred the petition of Jackson Warner, a brother suspended by Fitz Lodge, No. 30, for non-payment of dues, recommended that the prayer of the petitioner be granted, and that said Warner be reinstated.

On motion, said report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Leake offered the following resolutions :

1st. That we proceed to elect, by ballot, a Grand Lecturer for one year, whose duty it shall be to visit all the Subordinate Lodges under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and exemplify the work as agreed upon by the late Baltimore Convention, and report at our next Grand Annual Communication.

2d. That the said Grand Lecturer shall receive the sum of \$—, as compensation for such service, which sum shall be paid out of the Grand Treasury.

3d. That the Grand Secretary be and he is hereby authorized to require from each Subordinate Lodge under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, a sum not exceeding one dollar, for each of its members, if the said tax should be necessary, in consequence of the want of funds in the Grand Treasury.

Bro. Cropper offered the following substitute for said resolutions, by way of amendment :

Resolved, That a Grand Lecturer be elected in accordance with the Constitution.

The question being upon the adoption of said amendment, it was lost.

The resolutions, as offered by Bro. Leake, were severally adopted, and the blank in the second resolution, was filled with "\$1000."

Bro. Leake offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That we do immediately proceed to the election of Grand Lecturer, as provided for by the resolutions just passed.

On motion of Bro. Walter, the word "immediately" was stricken out, and "at half-past three o'clock, P. M." inserted, and then the resolution, as amended, was adopted.

On motion of Bro. Vannatta, it was

Resolved, That whereas, the Committee on Subordinate Lodges have examined the proceedings of Tappan Lodge, U. D., at Brownsville, and have recommended that a charter be issued to said Lodge, the proper officer be and is hereby required to cause the same to be duly issued.

Bro. Walter presented the following report of the Committee on Foreign Communications :

The Committee on Foreign Communications beg leave to report : That they have received and examined communications from the Grand Lodges of Maine,

New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Texas, and a copy of the journal of the proceedings of the National Convention, held May last at Baltimore.

The last mentioned is most important, and as it contains much that has been made the ground work of the proceedings of the different Grand Lodges of the United States, and it was specially referred, by this honorable body, to this Committee, they will notice, *seriatim*, the various subjects of interest contained in its printed report.

Your Committee are happy to learn from that report, and from our able delegate, Bro. Delafield, that an uniform system of work, lectures and ceremonies was adopted by the Convention, and which your Committee recommend to the favorable notice of this Grand Lodge.

Immediately connected with this subject, and as an important adjunct thereto, the Convention has recommended to the several Grand Lodges of the United States, to appoint each a delegate to meet at some central point of the Union once in every three years, for the purpose of forming a Triennial Convention. The advantages which would result from the proposed system are incalculable—amongst which, we notice the following :

1st. Greater uniformity of labor will be produced among the various Lodges of the United States.

2d. Greater union and harmony will prevail amongst the various Grand Lodges of our country.

3d. The various Grand Lodges will thus be informed of the prosperity or depression of the Order, and will be better enabled to increase the former and remove the latter.

4th. By means of this Convention, some measures may be adopted to ascertain the method of work now in use in the various Lodges of the world, and to devise some plan to effect uniformity in their labors.

This system, in the eyes of the Committee, possesses many advantages over that of a Grand National Lodge, and among others, the two following objections may be urged against the latter :

1st. The history of the world, unfortunately, proves that no body of men will rest satisfied with present power, but are constantly on the alert to augment and increase it. This might, unfortunately, be the case with a General Grand Lodge.

2d. We should not only be free from reproach, but above all suspicion of it ; the creation of a Grand National Lodge might possibly lend the semblance of truth to the charge of political combination, so often brought against us by those whose ignorance must be the only apology for their groundless fears.

These are a few of the reasons which recommend the proposed system to your Committee, and they recommend it to the favorable notice of this Grand Lodge.

Your Committee would recommend that, at a suitable time, a delegate be appointed by this body to attend the proposed convention, to be held at Winchester, Virginia, in 1846.

Your Committee regard the proposition of sending a delegate to Europe, as the harbinger of better days to our Order. The utility of such a measure is evident to all, and we should do injustice to the good sense of this body were we to give a detail of its almost innumerable benefits. From the difficulty of inter-communication between the new and old world until within the past few years ; from the fact that discrepancies exist in Masonic labor—not only in the different political governments of North America, but even in the United States ; and from daily experience, your Committee are led to the almost fearful conclusion that, unless preventive measures be adopted at no distant period of time, the universality of Masonry may exist only in name, and our happy brotherhood be confined within the limits of the old world. Ministering at the same altar, worshipping the same God, and pursuing the same glorious object, we should, also, speak the same language with our brethren throughout the habitable globe. Our holy institution, nurtured with the dews of the morning

of time, and strengthened by the prayer of the destitute and distressed, may soon be buried in the mists of error, or in the mockery of farcical rites and ceremonies. The poison is already working in the system, but the antidote is in good hands. Will you apply it? Sincerely do we recommend, not only to you, but to every Grand Lodge of the Union, effective and immediate action on this subject. The able address of the M. W. Grand Master, not only points out the advantages of the measure, but suggests a happy method of avoiding any pecuniary liability in its execution.

Your Committee approach, with the greatest reluctance, a subject which seems to have claimed the attention, and enlisted the talents of several of the Grand Lodges of our country. We allude to the subject of Grand Lodge Certificates, first proposed in New York, and, afterwards, recommended at Baltimore. Your Committee believe, that the proposition has met, and will meet with an unfavorable reception. Your Committee would have regarded the whole system as an innovation upon the Ancient Land Marks of the Order, and as highly objectionable from the startling effects, likely to follow its general introduction. The talent, ability and learning of the Convention, adopting and recommending it, have procured it a careful and laborious examination at the hands of your Committee. We believe that charity and assistance are always due to worthy brethren in difficulty and distress. How often is this distress caused by unavoidable casualty, which, in a moment, robs them of every comfort—even the clothing necessary to cover their nakedness. Flood and fire, the lightning or tempest, may, in a moment, work their disastrous effects, and leave a pitiable object of destitution and misery, with all of probity and Masonic knowledge, but destitute of the less valuable and less reliable certificate of their Lodge. Should they ask for charity, they will possibly be rebuked as mendicants; should they tell their misfortunes, they will be told, that the same Providence that caused their suffering and misery, has also deprived them of all claim on their brother's charity. But this is not the only objection to the system. We conceive it to be an innovation upon the Ancient Land Marks of the Order, as it rests a brother's claim to relief, not upon his knowledge of the traditional mysteries of the craft, but upon the written certificate of his brethren. Again, the proposition itself, naturally presupposes that some unworthy persons, by audacity, cunning and adroitness, have been initiated into the mysteries of the craft—will not the same "proficiency" enable such unworthy brother to procure from his Lodge the certificate which will enable him to plunder with impunity, and ask on all hands with the certainty of receiving? We are sometimes liable to imposition, but the remedy proposed is not adequate to the evil, and it can be found only in an elevation of the standard of those virtues indispensable to the recommendation of a man, as a proper subject of initiation. But as the system is in active operation in the State in which it originated, and as we have no power to alter, or annul it, we must devise some plan by which a brother in Mississippi may be presentable to a brother in New York. Your Committee, for this purpose, would advise that the Grand Secretary, sign, and forward blank certificates to each Subordinate Lodge, to be, by it, filled up, and handed to the person applying for the same.

Your Committee recommend to the favorable notice of this body, the system of representation adopted by most of the Grand Lodges of the United States; as also, by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, Holland, Germany and Texas. Business of importance transacted by our Lodge, may be thus brought immediately under the observation of each of the others, and the brethren in one State, or Nation, would be certain to find in another, one who would listen to their complaints and introduce them as brethren.

Your Committee would recommend to the favorable consideration of this body, the action of the Baltimore Convention, in relation to the subject of compelling brother Masons, not members of any Lodge, to contribute a sum equal in value to the annual dues *per capita* of the Subordinate Lodge, in whose jurisdiction they reside.

Your Committee are most forcibly struck with the absolute necessity of a

firm and steady adherence to some uniform mode of work and lectures, and to the adoption of all possible means requisite to attain and perpetuate the same, by what appears to them to be a serious innovation in the body of Masonry, as found in the report of two neighboring Grand Lodges. In thus speaking, however, your Committee only beg to be understood as referring to the necessity, on our own part, of avoiding what we deem wrong in others, without intending to pass censure, but only to call to the notice of the craft what is worthy of their serious consideration. The report of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, presents to us the anomalous fact, of the different kinds of Masonry existing within its jurisdiction—three distinct rites, viz :

The *Rite Eccosaïs*, *Rite Modern*, and the *Rite au York*.

Your Committee further notice in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Texas, the following resolution :

[The Committee having failed to return to the Grand Secretary, the Foreign Communications referred to them, the resolution of which they complain is necessarily omitted; but it is believed to be the one recognizing the *Rite Eccosaïs*. G. S.]

How, brethren, can these things be? Is truth one, or is it divisible? Can it contradict itself? If not, one of these systems must be false. The result then, is inevitable, that, by passing unnoticed, we directly sanction the error. In their view of the case, the committee again earnestly urge on this Grand Lodge, an expression of their conviction of the necessity of adopting every means to correct the evil alluded to; and this they conceive can only be well done by adopting the system recommended by the late Convention at Baltimore.

Your committee, acting upon that portion of the M. W. Grand Master's address, as relates to the exclusion of Jews from membership in our Order, after a full and thorough investigation of the subject, have not been able to discover the semblance of a reason for debarring them from privileges of the the Order. They cannot unite in sentiment with the Grand Lodge of Prussia upon this subject, as the measure, in the eyes of the committee, is neither warranted by usage or expediency.

Your committee recommend to the favorable notice of this Body, the Masonic Trestle Board, lately published by order of the Baltimore Convention.

Your committee beg leave to report the following resolutions :

1st. That this Grand Lodge adopt the mode of work, lectures and ceremonies agreed upon and recommended by the Baltimore Convention.

2d. That the "rules for the organization and establishment of a Grand National Convention of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons," as passed by the Convention of Masons at the meeting in May, in the year 1843, in the city of Baltimore, composed of eight sections, as the same are set forth in the printed proceedings thereof, be, and the same are hereby adopted by this Grand Lodge, to-wit :

RULES FOR THE ORGANIZATION AND ESTABLISHING A GRAND CONVENTION OF ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS.

SECTION 1. A Grand Masonic Convention of Free and Accepted Masons is hereby established for the United States, and shall consist and be composed of representatives from the several Grand Lodges of the United States, one from each—to be chosen, elected or appointed in such manner as the Grand Lodges respectively may think proper to employ.

SEC. 2. The Convention, when duly established, shall have power and authority :

1st. To decide upon and settle a uniform mode and form of Masonic work, lectures and ceremonies, so as to retain the ancient customs, ceremonies and forms, and to provide for the necessary instruction therein.

2d. To prescribe for the fraternity a uniform mode and form for issuing certificates of good standing, and the effect thereof.

3d. To hear and decide all questions of difference which may be submitted to them in Convention by two or more Grand Lodges. Provided, however, that such decision shall bind no Grand Lodge not a party to such reference.

4th. To adopt and enforce a set of rules for the government of the deliberations of the Convention.

5th. At each meeting of the Convention to determine and fix the time and place of each succeeding triennial meeting of the Convention.

SEC. 3. The several Grand Lodges which may adopt the foregoing rules, shall at their Annual Communication next before the last of March in the year 1846, and at the corresponding meetings every third year thereafter, elect or appoint, in such manner as they each respectively may think proper, one trusty, well-skilled, brother Master Mason, (a resident of the State within which the Grand Lodge is held, of which he is a representative,) a representative in said Convention.

SEC. 4. The representatives of the several Grand Lodges shall each produce a certificate of his appointment, attested by the Grand Secretary, and the seal of the Grand Lodge from which he comes; which certificate, so attested, shall entitle the brother therein named to membership in the Convention.

SEC. 5. The Convention shall meet for business once every three years, at such day and place as may be ordered, as herein provided.

SEC. 6. Whenever any Grand Lodge may so order that they will no longer remain a member of the Convention, such Grand Lodge shall not be represented in the Convention, nor bound by its acts.

SEC. 7. The foregoing rules and grant of power shall not be altered or enlarged, except by recommendation of the Convention, and the consent of two-thirds of the Grand Lodges belonging to the Convention.

SEC. 8. Whenever thirteen or more Grand Lodges, by resolution or otherwise, shall adopt the foregoing rules, the same shall be established and the Convention taken as duly organized as to such Grand Lodges as may adopt them.

3d. That we heartily concur in the proposition of said Baltimore Convention, of sending a delegate to Europe, and would recommend the propriety of immediately adopting the most suitable measures for the attainment of that object.

4th. That we do not recognize the expediency of adopting the system of Grand Lodge Certificates, but as it is now acted upon by the Grand Lodges of some of the States, therefore,

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary of this State be required to forward to each Subordinate Lodge in this State, blank certificates, signed with his name, and having the seal of the Grand Lodge affixed thereto, in the rate of one certificate for every eight members, to be by the Lodge filled up with the name, and handed to the brother who may be about to visit any of the States in which the system is in operation, and for which he shall pay the sum of one dollar, to be forwarded, in every case, by the Lodge to the Grand Secretary, as a remuneration for his services.

5th. That it is the opinion of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, that no person qualified in other respects to become a member of the fraternity, should be debarred the privileges on account of any religious or political opinions.

6th. That the Grand Lodge do adopt in its labors, the Masonic Trestleboard, lately published by order of the Baltimore Convention.

7th. That this Grand Lodge reciprocate the courtesy of the Grand Lodges from whom communications have been received, and that the Grand Secretary transmit a copy of the proceedings of this Communication, to each Grand Lodge, and solicit a continuation of friendly intercourse and courtesy.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. W. WALTER,
WILLIAM J. LEAKE,
W. N. BONNER,
Committee.

On motion of Bro. Walter, said report was received, and the resolutions

reported, were taken up in their order, and all were severally adopted, except the sixth, which was amended, on motion of Bro. Przsiminski, by striking out all after the word "Resolved," and inserting the following:

WHEREAS, There is a necessity for a text book for the general use of the craft, to contain the carpets, and public ceremonies as adopted by the late, National Masonic Convention; and

WHEREAS, The text-book entitled "The Masonic Trestle-board," has been published by a part only of a committee appointed by said Convention, which text-book, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, is liable to a serious objection common to every Chart and Manual, heretofore published in this country; be it

Resolved, That "The Masonic Trestle-board," published by a part of a committee, appointed by the late National Masonic Convention, at Baltimore, meets with the approbation of this Grand Lodge in all points but one; and that if the R. W. brethren of said Committee, will on further consideration of this matter, put forth a new edition of their present publication, carefully excluding therefrom every sentence of monitorial instruction, and retaining all else, as it now stands, then, and in that case, this Grand Lodge will cordially adopt the same as the authorized text-book, within its jurisdiction, and will urge its sole use in the various Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. Bonner,

Resolved, That a charter be issued to Eureka Lodge by the Grand Secretary, in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion, of Bro. Coleman,

Resolved, That whereas, the Committee on Subordinate Lodges have recommended that a charter be granted to St. Albans Lodge, U. D., the Grand Secretary be and he is hereby required to issue a charter to said Lodge complying with the requisition of the Constitution.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, Jan. 18, 1844, 3 o'clock, P. M

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Bro. Porter presented the following report:

The undersigned, the Committee on Accounts, beg leave to report, that the accounts which have been submitted to them, to-wit:

Of W. H. Hamilton, for repairing pavement, \$10; of Brown & Price, for repairing cars and front of Masonic Hall; of C. C. Williamson, for repairing two fire places; of G. & E. Kennedy, \$15; that they have had due consideration of the matter before them, and respectfully represent to the Grand Lodge, that the Subordinate Lodges of this city, together, with the Chapter and Council, have free use for their deliberations of the Masonic Hall, which is occupied by them during the year, when the Grand Lodge occupies the building during four days in the year. Your Committee are willing to allow a proportionable part of said accounts to be paid by the Grand Lodge, the residue by the Subordinate Lodges, Chapter and Council.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

GEORGE C. PORTER,
JOSHIAH MARSHALL,
S. ALEXANDER,
Committee.

Which report was received and agreed to.

The Committee to whom was referred the examination of the cornice, floor of the passage, etc., reported that they had carefully and fully examined the same, and recommended that the copper inside the gutters be repaired, and that three conductors be put thereto; and they further recommend, that the floor of the said passage be taken up, that brick be laid in the place thereof. Which was received and agreed to.

The hour having arrived for the election of a Grand Lecturer, Bros. W. Cooper and Coleman, were appointed tellers, whereupon it appeared that P. G. M. G. A. Wilson was unanimously elected Grand Lecturer.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year. Same tellers, and the following was the result :

M. W. S. W. VANNATTA.....	Grand Master.
R. W. C. R. PRZYMINSKI.....	Grand Senior Warden.
THOMAS J. JOHNSTON.....	Grand Junior Warden.
REV. THOMAS C. CROPPER.....	Grand Chaplain.
WILLIAM R. MILES.....	Grand Orator.
THOMAS ROSE.....	Grand Treasurer.
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
R. N. DOWNING.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
JAMES H. SUBBLEFIELD.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
WM. N. LANIER.....	Grand Marshal.
JOHN WELLS.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
THOS. C. FINNEY.....	Grand Pursuivant.
D. H. LANE.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

On motion of Bro. Leake,

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized and requested to dispose at public auction, or otherwise, of all the uncurrent money in the Grand Treasury, so as to disencumber his annual report.

Bro. Chamberlain offered the following :

Resolved, That the Grand Officers elect be installed this evening at eight o'clock.

When, on motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow, to give room to a Convocation of Past Masters, convened to install W. Josiah Marshall, Master elect, of Benj. Franklin Lodge, No. 46.

FRIDAY, January 19, 1844, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Subordinate Lodges represented the same as yesterday.

The Committee on Accounts reported that they have examined the account of Bro. D. H. Lane, Grand Steward and Tyler, amounting to forty-five dollars and seventy-five cents, and Thomas H. Quarterman's account for three dollars and fifty cents, and believed both to be correct, and recommended the allowance of the same; which was agreed to.

On motion, of Bro. Knapp,

Resolved, That, whereas Eastern Star Lodge, No. 27, was suspended, at the last Grand Annual Communication, for non-payment of dues, and for failing to comply with the requisitions of the Grand Lodge.

2d. That said Lodge has incurred a forfeiture of their charter, and that they are hereby required to surrender the same, together with the jewels, accounts, dues, and all other estate and property of said Lodge.

3d. That Quitman Lodge, No. 18, being in arrears for dues for three years last past, have until July next to make full returns, and pay their dues, and in default thereof, to stand suspended until the next Grand Annual Communication.

On motion of Bro. Leake,

Resolved, That Joseph Warren Lodge, U. D., and Asylum Lodge, U. D., have until the 1st of March next, to make their returns and pay their dues, and if their work be approved by the Grand Secretary, that he be and is hereby authorized, upon receiving the usual fees, to issue charters to said Lodges.

On motion of Bro. Leake,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to have published two hundred and fifty copies of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, at this Communication, and forward two copies to each Subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Przsiminski,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to correspond with the editor of the "Freemason's Magazine," published in Boston, and express to him the hope, that he will exercise greater caution in his publications touching Masonry, and convey to him at the same time, the high opinion entertained by this Grand Lodge, of the ability with which said magazine is conducted.

The Grand Officers elect were then installed, the Grand Master by the Past Grand Master, and then the Grand Master installed the other officers.

Bro. Coleman offered a resolution against processions and installations, which, on question being had thereon, was lost.

On motion of P. G. M. Wilson,

Resolved, That the Natchez Masonic Free School have the use of the refreshment room in the Masonic Hall, free of rent, as a school room.

2d. That a committee, consisting of Bros. Rose, Finney and Mellen, be hereby authorized and empowered to have the necessary repairs made on this Masonic Hall as reported by the Select Committee upon the subject, and that the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay the same on the order of the committee hereby appointed.

On motion of Bro. Watts,

Resolved, That the Subordinate Lodges be required, in making out the annual returns, to insert the name of the counties in which said Lodge is situated.

Bro. Przsiminski, offered the following resolutions :

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the proposition made by the Baltimore Convention of Grand Lecturers, to send a Masonic Delegate to Europe, for the purpose of closely and thoroughly examining the differences existing in Masonic work in the Grand, as well as Subordinate Lodges, of this country, and of the different countries of Europe, and after such examination reporting to a General Grand Communication, (and thereby enable them to digest and propose some plan of union, whereby the working in this country and in the different countries of Europe and elsewhere, be rendered the same, and Masonry once more be made the universal language for which it was intended), be deemed essentially and indispensably necessary for the good of the Craft.

2d. That this Grand Lodge recommend ———, as one every way qualified to act as such delegate, and recommend him to this co-appointment.

3d. That the sum of — dollars be and they are hereby appropriated, towards defraying the expenses of said delegate, provided — Grand Lodges of the United States agree to join in the undertaking.

4th. That this Grand Lodge impress the necessity of speedy action on the part of her sister Grand Lodges of the United States, on this important subject.

5th. That such delegate be requested to make all diligent search after archaeological documents bearing upon Masonry, digest and throw the same into the form of a treatise, and present the copyright for it to the Triennial Grand Convention to dispose of the proceeds thereof to the Grand Lodges of the United States who may concur in sending such delegate.

6th. That the Grand Secretary be required to communicate the above to all the Grand Lodges of the United States, as soon as possible.

On motion of Bro. Wilson, the blank in the second resolution was filled with the name of John Delafield, Jr., of Memphis, Tennessee.

On motion of Bro. Leake, the second resolution was amended by striking out all after the words "qualified to," and inserting "perform the duties of this appointment, and that should a majority of the several Grand Lodges of the United States agree in selecting him, he is hereby appointed by, and on behalf of this Grand Lodge.

And the following resolution was adopted as a substitute to the third resolution :

3d. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge will bear an equal proportion of the expense incurred by sending a delegate to Europe, provided a majority of the Grand Lodges of the United States agree with us in the propriety of sending such delegate.

The 4th resolution was not adopted.

Bro. Leake moved to reconsider the vote filling the blank in 2d resolution with the name of John Delafield, Jr., of Memphis, Tennessee, which motion was lost; whereupon the resolutions were adopted as amended, and read as follows :

1st. *Resolved*, That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the proposition made by the Baltimore Convention of Grand Lecturers, to send a Masonic delegate to Europe for the purpose of closely and thoroughly examining the differences existing in Masonic work in the Grand, as well as Subordinate Lodges, of this country, and of the different countries of Europe, and after such examination reporting to a General Grand Convocation, (and thereby enable them to digest and propose some plan of union whereby the working in this country and in the different countries of Europe and elsewhere, be rendered the same, and Masonry once more be made the universal language for which it was first intended,) be deemed essentially and indispensably necessary for the good of the Craft.

2d. That this Grand Lodge recommend Bro. John Delafield, Jr., of Memphis, Tennessee, as every way qualified to perform the duties of this appointment, and that should a majority of the several Grand Lodges of the United States agree in selecting him, he is hereby appointed by and on behalf of this Grand Lodge.

3d. That this Grand Lodge will bear an equal proportion of the expense incurred by sending a delegate to Europe, provided a majority of the Grand Lodges of the United States agree with us in the propriety of sending such delegate.

4th. That such delegate be requested to make all diligent search after archaeological documents bearing upon Masonry, digest and throw the same into the form of a treatise, and present the copy-right for it to the Triennial Grand Convention to dispose of the proceeds thereof, to the Grand Lodges of the United States who may concur in sending such delegate.

5th. That the Grand Secretary be required to communicate the above to all the Grand Lodges of the United States as soon as possible.

On motion of Bro. Johnston,

Resolved, That on account of the unusual difficulty presented to the delegate

of Columbus Lodge, No. 5, in reaching Natchez at this Communication, twelve dollars of the dues of said Lodge be remitted.

On motion of Bro. Przsiminski,

Resolved, That the Grand Treasurer be instructed to pay to Bro. Delafield, the per diem and mileage allowed to representatives of the Subordinate Lodges, in consideration of his attendance on this Grand Lodge.

On of Bro. Johnston,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are due and are hereby tendered to our beloved Bro. John Delafield, Jr., for the admirable zeal and ability with which he has discharged the duties of delegate to the Masonic Baltimore Convention.

2d. That Bro. Delafield carries with him our warmest wishes for his future health and happiness.

On motion of Bro. Cropper,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are justly due to our M.: W.: Past Grand Master George A. Wilson, for the courteous and able manner in which he has presided over the Grand Lodge at the present Communication.

Bro. Przsiminski offered an amendment to the Constitution, and while the question of its reception was pending—

On motion of Bro. Downing, it was

Resolved, That next Grand Annual Communication be held on the third Monday in January, 1845, and that we now adjourn, *sine die*.

Prayer by the Right Reverend Grand Chaplain, and then the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form.

WM. P. MELLENS, Grand Secretary.

TWENTY-SEVENTH COMMUNICATION.

1845.

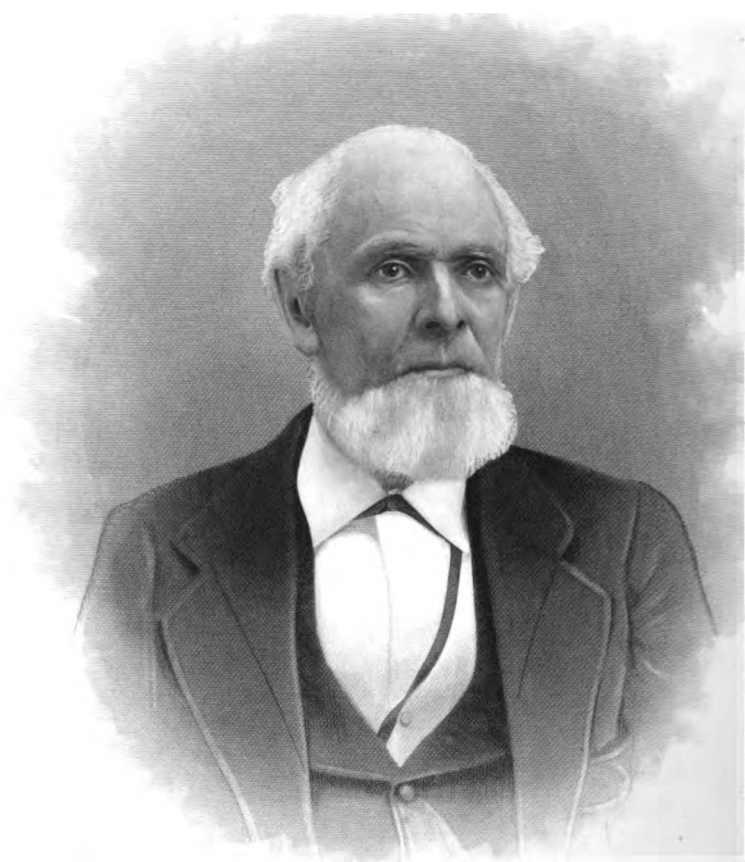
NATCHEZ, January 20th, 1845.

PRESENT:

R. W. HARVEY W. WALTER.....	D. G. M., & G. Master, <i>p. t.</i>
GEO. A. WILSON.....	P. G. M., and G. Lecturer.
B. S. TAPPAN.....	Grand Senior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
THOS. J. JOHNSTON.....	Grand Junior Warden.
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
R. N. DOWNING.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
WM. COOPER.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
THOMAS C. FINNEY.....	Grand Pursuivant.
H. D. LANE.....	Grand Steward & Tyler.

The following named brethren presented their credentials as representatives of Subordinate Lodges, and took their seats, to-wit, from :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—Wm. P. Mellen, John Wells and Henry Polkinghorn, Jr.
 Andrew Jackson, No. 2—W. W. Wilkins, T. C. Finney and D. G. Benbrook.
 Clinton, No. 16—S. Alexander.
 Leake, No. 17—Thomas P. Slade.
 Raymond, No. 21—R. N. Downing.
 Pearl No. 23—Thos. Palmer and Wm. Wing.
 Lexington, No. 24—Ira S. Mitchell.
 Gallatin, No. 25—W. W. Cook and John M. McDonald.
 Vicksburg, No. 26—B. S. Tappan, C. H. Bancks and W. Smith.
 Canton, No. 28—A. M. Paxton.
 Aberdeen, No. 32—J. A. Wilcox.
 Oxford, No. 33—J. F. Cushman.
 Holly Springs, No. 35—Jos. O. Walker.
 Carrollton, No. 36—Elias Fisher.
 Ancient York, No. 38—D. B. Clavenger.
 Yazoo, No. 42—T. J. Wilson.
 Salem, No. 45—H. W. Walter.
 Locke, No. 52—Charles A. Lacoste, E. Profilet, and P. Price.
 Lafayette, No. 53—Thomas J. Johnston.
 Sterling, No. 54—James A. Chapman.
 Chulahoma, No. 55—J. A. Wallace.
 Mississippi, No. 56—G. T. Martin.
 Harrison, No. 57—J. E. Watts.
 Tappan, No. 59—Geo. C. Porter.
 Eureka, No. 61—John Falls.
 Asylum, No. 63—Francis Gildart and Parker Smith.
 Marion, U. D.—Sylvanus Evans.
 Dekalb, U. D.—William H. H. H.
 Silas Brown, U. D.—N. W. Camp and D. S. Jennings.



THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

H. W. Walter



H. W. Walter

The Grand Lodge was opened in Due Form. Prayer by Rev. Bro. Camp. The R. W. Deputy Grand Master and Grand Master, *pro tem.*, Harvey W. Walter, addressed the Grand Lodge as follows:

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE OF MISSISSIPPI: We have assembled for the purpose of interchanging our views and opinions in relation to our cherished institution, and adopting such measures as may promote its welfare and usefulness. In obedience to a custom, originating with the presiding officers of the several Grand Lodges of our country, I shall endeavor to lay before you such Masonic incidents as may be interesting in their character, and shall submit to your serious consideration such measures as may, with propriety, demand your attention and action.

Since our last Grand Annual Communication, we have had abundant matter, both of congratulation and regret,—for congratulation, in the sure and steady increase of our members, and the general prosperity of our Order; and for regret in the severe loss which this Grand Lodge has sustained in the death of two of its most valued and efficient officers. Our late M. W. Grand Master and the Right Rev. Grand Chaplain have been called from their labor of love amongst us, to that refreshment, prepared for them in the Grand Lodge of the Universe, where our Supreme Architect and Master forever presides. Their loss would have been to us irreparable, had they not bequeathed to us an invaluable legacy in the example of virtue and piety which the life of both so eminently exhibited. Of the former, I may say with truth, that his knowledge of Masonry was such as to make him the brightest ornament of our Order,—while his devoted attachment to its tenets and his daily practice of its precepts had rendered him one of its most exemplary members. As a man, and as a Mason, he ever squared his actions by the teachings of Divine Revelation, and ever consulted that Great Masonic Trestleboard in all his relations with his fellow-man. I deemed it my duty, brethren, to give to our several Subordinate Lodges, official notice of this severe loss, and by the same instrument which conveyed this information, they received intelligence of the death of our late beloved Grand Chaplain. But little, indeed, can be said of the meek and humble minister of our Divine Master, save that he lived the pious and devoted christian, that he was ever the friend of the desolate and oppressed, and that, after a life spent in promoting the true happiness of his kind, he died the triumphant death of the devout and faithful follower of our God. This may seem but an humble eulogy for our late pious and beloved Chaplain, but it is one of truth, and far more honorable to the man and the christian, than all the hollow mockery which forms the epitaph of the votary of pleasure or ambition. The affectionate and amiable disposition of our brother, his simple, yet touching eloquence, his unpretending, yet sterling worth, will long live in the memory of his brethren, who will point to him as one who lived without a vice and died without an enemy. Our departed brethren have left to us not only the rich legacy of an exemplary life, but also those upon whom were lavished their tenderest affections as husbands and fathers, and have asked for them at our hands a Mason's care, and a Mason's charity. Let us remember, brethren, this sacred trust, and let us act towards them as none but Masons can act; with a liberality which knows no bounds, and a kindness which fetters itself with no restraints. Upon us devolves the sacred duty of administering to them all comfort and consolation, but especially to the afflicted widow and almost helpless family of our late Grand Master, and I feel confident, brethren, that you must cease to be Masons ere you can forget the claims of friendship and charity.

The subject of Masonic Schools will claim your serious consideration. The labor which has been expended,—and I regret to add, the feeling exhibited upon this important subject, have resulted in the adoption of what must appear to every reflecting man, a very crude and imperfect system. A careful review of the action of our Grand Lodge upon this subject, for the last six years, has forced me to the conclusion, that, it has been of no real benefit, but serious inconvenience and embarrassment to our Institutions. Can we not, brethren, in

a spirit of mutual concession adopt some plan, simple in its details, which will be eminently successful in its practical operations? I sincerely believe that we can, and I doubt not, but the good sense of this body will enable it to adopt some measure that will effectually dispose of this question, which has so long agitated our councils. Our present system provides, that each dimitted Mason in this State shall pay annually, to the Grand Lodge a sum equal in value to the annual dues *per capita* of the Subordinate Lodge within whose jurisdiction he resides. The fund arising from this source is to be applied exclusively to the purposes of education, and the Grand Lodge may appropriate annually therefrom a sum not exceeding one hundred dollars to any Subordinate Lodge which may be unable to educate all the destitute Masonic orphan children within its jurisdiction. No provision has been made (except as to ascertaining the names of dimitted brethren) to collect these *per capita* dues, (as they have been called,) consequently all our action upon this subject has proven a mere dead letter. This system, at best, is both complex and imperfect, inasmuch as it requires this fund to be paid to the Grand Lodge for no other purpose, which I can discover, than that of returning a portion of it to the Subordinate Lodge in whose vicinity it had been collected. A more serious and fatal objection to this system may be found in the almost universal refusal of dimitted brethren to pay these dues, and in their serious complaints, that they are deprived of the means of educating the destitute children of their own neighborhood by our appropriation of these dues to the support of schools with which they can have but little or no connection. The apparent justice of these complaints have so affected our various Subordinate Lodges, that they have withheld from us that hearty and cheerful co-operation so essentially necessary to the very existence of the present system. We may well doubt, brethren, the wisdom of that legislation which forces upon its constituency the fearful necessity of reconciling the claims of duty with the dictates of justice and the pleadings of inclination. Masons, of all persons, should most carefully avoid this evil. Some remedy for the imperfections of our existing system, has doubtless suggested itself to many of you during the past year, and a full expression of your views upon this subject, would no doubt be highly acceptable to the fraternity of your State. As I have attempted to expose some of the objections to the present plan, I hope, Brethren, you will consider me neither arrogant or presumptuous in suggesting one, which I sincerely hope will receive your cordial approbation, and which I humbly trust will correct the imperfections of our present system, and prove eminently successful in its practical operations.

That every dimitted brother should pay these *per capita* dues meets my most cordial approbation; but I humbly conceive that these dues should be paid to the Lodge nearest which he resides, and should be by it appropriated, exclusively to the education of the destitute Masonic orphan children within its jurisdiction. Each of our Subordinate Lodges would thus be enabled to raise annually a sum, varying from one to six hundred dollars, with which it might establish an independent school, or might send each child to the school nearest its residence during the larger portion of each year. The fund which could be realized from this source throughout the State would amount annually to about twelve thousand dollars, which with other Masonic contributions would educate yearly four hundred destitute children. Every dimitted brother will cheerfully lend his aid to this noble work, when he sees his neighbor and associate, his home Lodge, and his intimate brother engaged in this holy labor of educating the destitute children of his deceased friend and brother, and fitting them for the proper discharge of all those noble duties which claim the attention of the man and the Christian. He will promptly and cheerfully pay these dues, when, under the proposed system, he can daily and immediately witness the gratifying effect of his charity, in rescuing many a destitute and helpless orphan from the dread thralldom of ignorance and vice. The signal success which has already crowned the action of this system, reflects the highest credit upon the brethren supporting it, whilst it confers upon our institution the distinguished honor of maintaining the only free schools in our State. Whilst our

State government is preparing itself for future action upon this important subject, we are laying the foundation of a system which, in a short time, will effect more good in the cause of education than can probably be accomplished for years even with a really munificent school fund. We are not alone, brethren, in this noble labor of charity. Our brethren of other States are awakening to effective action, and the elevation of colleges, seminaries and schools under their active patronage and support, give ample promise, that Masonry is at length accomplishing one of the great ends designed by its illustrious founder. May we not look forward with confidence to the day, when the activity of our Order in this nation, will annually collect and disburse in this great work, more than half a million of money, and when we shall support the most munificent charity of our country in the yearly education of the thousands of the destitute and helpless orphans of the land. We have been too long forgetful of our high destiny, have too long slept upon our post, whilst our brethren of the Old World have given wings to their charity, have erected their asylums for the halt, the lame and the blind, have conferred the boon of education upon the destitute child of every departed brother, have become the welcome messengers of joy and gladness to the desolate and friendless of our Order. Day is dawning upon us from the East, and we too have shaken off our slumbers, and have determined to become the competitors of our brethren of other lands, in this active labor of love and charity. To you, brethren, is assigned an humble part in the accomplishment of this great work, and I cheerfully submit the whole question to your calm and serious consideration, confident that good sense will characterize your deliberations, and success vindicate the wisdom of your conclusions. Let not the seeming publicity of this charity deter you from prompt and efficient action : for I know you will agree with me, that there is more of real affectation in concealing a parsimonious charity, than in manifesting an utter indifference as to what men may say or think of an open and munificent one.

The contemplated mission to Europe merited, and received your serious consideration at our last Grand Annual Communication. You then recommended Bro. John Delafield, Jr., of Memphis, Tenn., to your sister Grand Lodges, as a Mason every way well qualified to discharge the duties of this important trust; agreeing to consider him the delegate, should the majority of other Grand Lodges concur with you in his appointment, and binding yourselves for the *pro rata* part of the expense which would be incurred by the mission. So far as I am informed, no action has been taken upon the subject by the other Grand Lodges, and as the time limited for his return, (May, 1846) has so far expired as to render it impossible to execute the mission within the stipulated time, we may consider ourselves as fully released from our proposition. Although the design of sending the delegate before the triennial Convention of 1846, is now impracticable, still the same weighty and important reasons for the mission exist in all their original force. The time for effecting it has only been delayed. I would submit to you, brethren, the propriety of recommending to the several Grand Lodges of our country the necessity of clothing their representatives to the triennial Convention with plenary powers to select the delegate and to bind their constituent Grand Lodges for the payment of their respective portions of the sum necessary to accomplish the work. The two most prominent objects of the mission are, first, to obtain archaeological information concerning our institution; and second, to effect, as far as possible, a uniformity of work and labor in the Order throughout the world. The information obtained would not only be of inestimable value to the fraternity, but would also enable the several Grand Lodges, by judicious disposal of its copy-right, to repay themselves the sums advanced for the mission. The second object mentioned is, however, by far the more important, as it would remove a most portentous and alarming evil which has been fearfully increasing within the last few years, and which threatens ere long to confine our true Order to the Old World. Masonry is a unit, and must, like truth, ever be one and indivisible. Is this so? Unfortunately for us, it is becoming a matter of

extreme difficulty for a brother of our country to pass himself with a Mason of other lands. The work of four degrees, as conferred by our trans-atlantic brethren, becomes with us the labor of nine, by which means a brother of the second degree there might, without the most strict examination, pass himself as a much higher Mason with us. Whilst the contemplated mission would probably correct this evil, it would also remove another, which operates with peculiar hardship upon every mere Master Mason amongst us. The several Grand Lodges of our country have very properly determined, that no mere master can preside over a Subordinate Lodge, or fill any of the more important offices of his Grand Lodge. This rule, though perfectly correct, operates with peculiar hardship here, as many of our Subordinate Lodges have seldom more than one of their number qualified to preside, and should he, after his election, die or remove, a large number of them would be compelled to suspend their labors until the next Communication, or to send off one of their Wardens to obtain in some distant Chapter the requisite qualification to fill the chair of his own Lodge. Brethren, this is an extreme evil, the correction of which would form one of the prominent objects of the contemplated mission. I cannot dismiss this subject without some notice of the noble conduct of our brother Master Masons in adopting a rule which excludes them from all the high offices of their Order, upon the mere assurance of their brethren of higher degree, that a different course would be a violation of the land marks of Masonry. We may well conclude that such another instance of brotherly confidence could be found in no earthly institution. To you, brethren, this question is again submitted, and I ask you in the name of every Master Mason of our country, to give it your serious consideration.

Your attention is respectfully solicited to the consideration of a very momentous and important question of Masonic jurisprudence, which has been called forth by the action of one of our Subordinate Lodges during the past year. It assumed and exercised the power of expelling its own Master, who was also the Grand Senior Warden of this Grand Lodge. If the rule adopted by the Triennial Convention of Baltimore, that "no Subordinate Lodge can try its own Master, but that he is amenable to the Grand Lodge, alone," be correct, the whole proceeding is absolutely null and void, and the brother is still our Grand Senior Warden. The conformity of this rule with the old Constitutions of Masonry, and its almost universal approval by the craft, have given to it the binding force and sanction of a law. I do not feel disposed to question either its wisdom or propriety. By it the Master of a Lodge is exempt from trial whilst he continues in office; so also is the Grand Master of a State, for he is by virtue of his office the Master of all the Subordinate Lodges within his jurisdiction. Does not the same rule hold good as to all the officers of the Grand Lodge? One of the reasons upon which the rule is founded, is, as I suppose, that the Subordinate Lodge might by expulsion of its successive Masters, deprive itself of all its officers, and thus work its own temporary if not permanent dissolution. The same reason will apply with equal, nay, with greater force to the case of the Grand Lodge, as each of its subordinates, might, by the exercise of this power, expel all its Grand Officers, and thus effect its virtual destruction. The action of the Subordinate Lodge, as to the Grand Senior Warden, is certainly an anomaly in the history of government, as I can recollect no instance where one of a numerous constituency has been permitted to depose an officer whom all have concurred in selecting. Each of the Subordinate Lodges is but an unit of this Grand Lodge, and the aggregation of these units forms the constituency of its Grand Officers. You might with equal propriety give to any one member of the Electoral College of our nation, the power to depose the President, whom all have concurred in selecting, as to suffer a Subordinate Lodge to expel an officer whom all the Masons throughout the State have elevated to office. This power is certainly withheld in the former case, and I can see no plausible reason why it should be conferred in the latter. As in the political, so also in the Masonic government, the constituent bodies of each may by its representative impeach before the

proper tribunal, these general officers, but never depose them. What is the proper tribunal in our government? Certainly the Grand Lodge, to whom, by the Old Constitutions was entrusted the sole power of suspending or expelling, not merely its own officers, but even the private members of the craft. Could I see no other objection to the action of the Subordinate Lodge, its novelty and startling violation of all the usages of good government would be with me insurmountable. To you, brethren, the question is submitted, with an earnest request that you will give it that calm and serious investigation which its novelty and importance demand.

As the subject of the prerequisite physical and mental qualifications of candidates for initiation, has been agitated in one of our Subordinate Lodges, I deem it my duty to call your attention to the subject, with a view to obtain from you such an expression of opinion, as will prevent future difficulties of a similar character. Would the loss of either of the three senses, feeling, seeing or hearing, bar a candidate from the degrees, or as in the case of the Lodge above alluded to, would the loss of sight prevent his initiation? I think, brethren, this question may be stripped of all difficulties, by reference to the character of our work as Masons. Originally, it was strictly operative, and more attention was paid to the physical than mental condition of the candidate. In reference to this point the Old Constitutions provide, that "every candidate for the mysteries of Masonry, shall be upright in body, not deformed or dismembered at the time of making, but of hale and entire limbs." The Grand Lodge of Kentucky has adopted a rule more congenial to the present spirit of Masonry, where it declares that "if the deformity of a candidate for initiation is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of Freemasonry, his admission will not be an infringement upon the landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of our Institution." Such, I conceive, will also be the opinion of every intelligent Mason, who reflects upon the great change which has taken place in the character of our work within the last two centuries. Physical labor has been superseded by mental action, and the man who retains these external senses, and is possessed of a good mental capacity, but of a weak and emaciated or even maimed body, would now be considered an eligible candidate, whereas he would formerly have been rejected—in other words, Masonry now requires of its votaries more of mind, and less of flesh and form, than it originally did. I think, brethren, that we may safely conclude that a loss or partial deprivation of those physical organs which minister alone to the action of the body, do not disqualify; but that the loss of those upon which the mind depends for its ideas of external objects, certainly would. We have then only to determine to which of these classes the eye, the ear, and the nerves belong to settle this difficulty. I cannot conceive how mind could be very sanative, deprived of all these, or how it could attain perfection with the loss of either of the first two. They are all its obedient slaves, and minister to it all the information upon which it depends for vigorous or healthy action. They are called by way of eminence the three Masonic senses, for reasons that will readily suggest themselves to the mind of every brother familiar with our work. Indeed, brethren, I cannot conceive how a person deprived of them, or either of them, would efficiently discharge the duties or perform the labor required at his hands. Intricate and embarrassing as the subject confessedly is, I have no doubt but that calm and serious reflection will enable you to adjudicate it correctly.

Some time during the past year I received a communication from the R. W. Grand Secretary, in relation to the Grand Lodge Lottery, a project which originated with this Grand Lodge several years since. I was not then, nor am I now, in possession of sufficient information to warrant any expression of opinion upon the subject. I do not know what rights, if any, have attached in the person contracting to draw the same, nor am I prepared to say which would be of the more questionable morals, the entire abandonment of the project, or its final completion. As I have, however, heard it suggested, that an entire recision of the contract might entail considerable pecuniary loss upon the

party contracting with us, I hope, for the purpose of avoiding improper reflections from any quarter, that you will give the subject a full and thorough examination.

I learn with unmingled feelings of gratification, that some of our Subordinate Lodges have lately adopted a system of action which secures to every sick brother, during his illness, the constant attendance of a Master Mason. The Masters of these Subordinate Lodges are required to appoint monthly a committee, whose sole duty consists in ascertaining the invalids amongst them, and appointing daily two Master Masons to attend each indisposed brother. The unparalleled mortality of the past year has convinced us all, not only of the utility, but of the absolute necessity of some general permanent system of this character, and I should prove recreant to duty, did I not urge upon this Grand Lodge, the propriety of adopting effectual measures to secure this desirable end. To visit the sick, and to supply their wants and administer comfort, is one of the grand charities of our Order, but to effect this organization and system are essentially necessary. Divided duty is seldom performed, and that which should be the duty of all, usually receives the attention of none. Let us, brethren, adopt effective measures to free ourselves from the charge of negligence in this particular. Let us not apply the speculative character of our work to our charity, but rather let us practice out of our Lodges the excellent lessons of brotherly love, relief and charity, which are taught us in them. Let us look through the emblems and symbols of Freemasonry, to the discharge of the great moral duties which they inculcate, and we confidently anticipate the day when the uniform and salutary, though silent and unseen influence of our principles will effectually silence the tongue of calumny, and weaken, if not forever extinguish the unjustifiable rancor and hatred of our enemies.

On motion of Bro. Tappan,

Ordered, That the address of the acting Grand Master be spread upon the minutes.

On motion of Bro. Wilson,

Resolved, That so much of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master's address as relates to schools, be referred to a select committee of three.

2d. That so much as relates to Grand Senior Wardens be referred to a select committee.

3d. That so much as relates to pre-requisite physical and mental qualifications of candidates be referred to a select committee of three.

4th. In relation to the Grand Lodge Lottery, be referred to a select committee of three.

5th. So much as relates to mission to Europe, be referred to the Committee on Foreign Communications.

On the first resolution, the Chair appointed Bros. Walker, Wallace and Hyde, and on motion, Bro. Paxton was added.

On the second resolution—Bros. Tappan, T. J. Wilson, and Lacoste.

On the third resolution—Bros. Jennings, Johnson and Chapman.

On the fourth resolution—Bros. Cushman, Gildart and McDonald.

The Chair then appointed the following Standing Committees:

On Foreign Communications—Bros. Stearns, Wilkins, Profilet, Martin, Alexander, Parker and Falla.

On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. Cooper Wilcox and Fisher.

On Subordinate Lodges—Camp, Cook, Palmer, Wilcox, McDonald, Slade, and Downing.

On Unfinished Business—Bros. Smith, Craig and Chapman.

On Accounts—Bros. Paxton, Chapman and Watts.

The Grand Secretary presented his annual account current and report:

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The undersigned, the Grand Secretary, in presenting his annual account current, begs leave to report, that by order of the Grand Lodge, charters have been issued to the following named Lodges, to-wit:

Tappan, No. 59, at Brownsville, Hinds county; St. Albans, No. 60, at Columbia, Marion county; Eureka, No. 61, at Richland, Holmes county; and Asylum, No. 63, at Woodville, Wilkinson county. And a Dispensation, by same authority, for a new Lodge at Marion, Lauderdale county, to be called Marion; Geo. Ury, Worshipful Master.

By direction of the Grand Master, Dispensations have been issued for the establishment of new Lodges, as follows, viz:

July 29th, at DeKalb, Kemper county, called DeKalb; Wm. Hyde, Worshipful Master.

August 28th, at Panola, Kemper county, called Belmont; C. Miller, Worshipful Master.

May 6th, at Jackson, Hinds county, called Silas Brown; C. R. Preczriminski, Worshipful Master.

December 5th, at Greenwood, Carroll county, called Valley; J. J. Hodge, Worshipful Master.

The following named Lodges have made returns and paid their dues, in whole or in part, since the adjournment of the Grand Lodge, to-wit:

Grenada, No. 31, (in part;); Aberdeen, No. 32; Liberty, No. 37; Macon, No. 40; Greensboro, No. 49; Asylum, U. D. (No. 63.)

The following have made returns, but have not paid their dues: Gallatin, No. 25; Olive Branch, No. 34; and Shady Grove, No. 43.

The following have neither made returns nor paid their dues: Quitman, No. 18; Oxford, No. 33; and Joseph Warren, U. D.

The petition of Grenada Lodge, No. 31, for the remission of dues in arrear, amounting to twenty-seven dollars, and for exemption from payment of dues for three in addition, is herewith presented. This Lodge having been at a large expense in building a Masonic Hall, and knowing that it had been customary for the Grand Lodge to remit dues in aid of such work by Subordinate Lodges, I did not hesitate to advise the Lodge to proceed with their Masonic work, as though the dues had been paid—making myself responsible for the payment in case of adverse action upon the petition.

Quitman, Gallatin and Shady Grove Lodges advised me that they had their dues in readiness, but had no means of transmitting the same. I requested them to hand the amount of dues to the R. W. Grand Lecturer when he should visit them, and forward to me his duplicate receipt. Since which I have not heard from them.

The day after the adjournment last year, I received by mail, the appeal of Jere Cooper, from the judgment of Carrollton Lodge, No. 36, expelling him from the benefits of Masonry, and which is herewith presented, together with a copy of notice on said Lodge of his intention to prosecute said appeal at the present Communication.

It will be seen by the accompanying resolutions of Coleman Lodge, No. 29, that said Lodge has surrendered its charter and asks the appointment of an administrator of its effects.

By resolution adopted at the last Communication, the Grand Secretary was required to furnish each Lodge, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, blank certificates of the Masonic grade and standing of Masons, under his signature, and the seal of the Grand Lodge, in proportion to each eight members. The certificate to be in proper form, must be engraved and printed on parchment, and would cost in Boston, \$1 00 each, and in New Orleans, \$1 33, and the number required would be about 250 or 300. These would be scattered, as it were, broad-cast, over the State, to be paid when used by the brother requiring it, to his Lodge, and by the Lodge to the Grand Secretary, at \$1 00 each. This, however, is but a minor difficulty. The Grand Secretary is required to certify to whatever any individual obtaining possession of the blank, may introduce, and to facts of which he has no personal knowledge, nor any by information, official or otherwise, and this under the seal of the Grand Lodge.

If there be no impropriety in the act itself, it would open the door to imposition. Upon consultation with several brethren, it has been thought advisable

to suspend action in the matter, until the Grand Lodge should have an opportunity of reconsidering the resolution. This has the more readily been done, as the resolution was reluctantly reported by the Committee, who did not recognize the expediency of adopting the Grand Lodge certificate system.

In obedience to your directions, I presented to the Subordinate Lodges, Chapter and Council in Natchez, bills for their proportion of certain bills for repair of Masonic Hall in 1843, amounting to \$12 62½ each. It is expected that they will memorialize the Grand Lodge upon the subject at the present session.

The Committee appointed to have repairs made on the Masonic Hall, not having acted, and it being absolutely necessary, I had the floor of the passage temporarily repaired by Bro. Finney, whose account will be presented for allowance.

I regret to say that one of the tenants, Mr. C. Packard, has failed to pay all of his rent. The balance due by him is \$60. His due bill is filed with the vouchers of my account.

Total receipts for twelve months from all sources, \$2203 67.

I received, in February last, a communication from the Grand Secretary of Georgia, announcing that the Grand Lodge of that State had recommended to this Grand Lodge, Bro. E. Ezekiel, of Columbus, Georgia, as a suitable representative of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, near that Grand Lodge. In my answer, acknowledging the receipt of this communication, I informed the R. W. Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Georgia, that this Grand Lodge had heretofore declined adopting the representative system, but that his letter would be duly submitted to your honorable body.

I also present special communications from the M. W. Grand Lodges of Virginia and Pennsylvania, and R. W. Bro. Charles W. Moore, relative to the proceedings of the Baltimore Convention and the Trestle-board.

No returns have as yet been made to the Grand Secretary of demitted members, within the respective jurisdiction of the Subordinate Lodges as required by resolution of last year, on page 34 of printed minutes.

Mr. Charles F. Hatcher, made a contract in the year 1839, with the Grand Lodge, by which, for and in consideration of \$500, paid by him, he was to draw the Masonic Hall Lottery as agent for the Grand Lodge, and for his compensation, was to receive the profits or loss of the drawing of \$50,000 worth of tickets. He proceeded under this contract and received the profits of the sale of \$19,769 50 worth of tickets. He discontinued the drawing, 30th May, 1840. In my report in 1842, I mentioned the fact and stated that Mr. H. was willing, if the Grand Lodge could make another contract with some one else, to abandon his contract. I also mentioned, that I presumed that he had forfeited it by non-user. He made application during the past summer, to continue the drawing, he having paid the Grand Lodge in advance and had incurred expenses, for which he had received no remuneration, but did not wish to proceed without the full concurrence of the Grand Lodge. He was referred by me to the R. W. Deputy Grand Master and Grand Master *pro tempore*, who declined acting without authority from the Grand Lodge. Mr. Hatcher's memorial is also submitted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. P. MELLE, Grand Secretary.

The documents referred to in the foregoing report were, on motion, referred to the appropriate standing committees.

The Grand Secretary presented his account current, showing the receipts for the past year to have been \$2,203 67; which was referred to the committee on accounts.

A communication from Bro. Thos. J. Harper, of Vicksburg, was read, when on motion of Bro. Tappan, it was

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to report to this Grand Lodge the necessary provision that should be made for the support of the the family of our late Grand Master, S. W. Vannatta.

Committee appointed under this resolution, were Bros. G. A. Wilson, Camp and Paxton.

On motion of Bro. Johnson, it was

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will go into the election of its Grand Officers at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M., to-morrow.

Petitions for Dispensations for new Lodges at Chickasaw, Steen's Creek, Houston and Raleigh, were presented and referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. Tappan,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to draw up resolutions expressive of the feelings of this Grand Lodge on the loss sustained by the death of its Grand Master and Grand Chaplain.

The Chair appointed Bros. Tappan, Camp and Smith said committee.

Bro. Tappan offered the following :

Resolved, That the sum of three hundred and sixty dollars and eighty cents be allowed and paid to Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, for amount expended by said Lodge for the funeral expenses of our late Grand Master, S. W. Vannatta, and for expenses incurred at an extra session of the Grand Lodge.

Which was laid upon the table, but on motion of Bro. Jennings, the vote was reconsidered, and the resolution referred to a committee consisting of Bros. Clavenger, Wing and Palmer.

Bro. Johnson presented the following resolution, which, on his motion, was laid on the table :

Resolved, That the dues of Lafayette Lodge, No. 53, for the year 1844, be remitted by the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Cooper, on the part of Trustees, invited the Grand Lodge to attend examination of pupils of the Masonic Free School, which, on motion of Bro. Downing, was accepted.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

MONDAY, Jan'y 20, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The same representation as in the morning.

Bros. John H. Duncan, H. M. Youngblood and Cheverly S. Coffee, from Thomas Hinds Lodge, No. 58, appeared, presented their credentials and took their seats.

The Grand Treasurer presented his account current, showing his receipts for the past year to have been \$2364 63 ; balance in the treasury, \$344 43, which was referred to the Committee on Accounts.

Bro. Tappan, from the select committee who were appointed to draw up resolutions expressive of the feelings of the Grand Lodge on the loss sustained by the death of their Grand Master and Grand Chaplain, made the following report :

In conformity with a resolution passed by this Grand Lodge, we report the following :

It becomes us not as Masons to call in question the wisdom or mercy of the acts of the Supreme Architect of the Universe, whether to us they are decorated in

gay and happy smiles, or are clothed in the sable garb of mourning; sufficient for us that we know that He does all things for our good, and although we feel that, in the death of our much lamented brother and Grand Master, S. W. Vannatta, and our lamented and Reverend Brother Thomas C. Cropper, the Grand Chaplain, vacancies are made, which, we fear may for a time, operate against the advancement of our time honored institution, yet we feel a firm reliance in the wisdom of Him who givest and takest away; be it therefore,

Resolved, That we, the Masons of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, in the death of the M.: W.: Grand Master, S. W. Vannatta, and of the M.: Rev. Grand Chaplain, Thomas C. Cropper, have lost friends endeared to us, by all the ties which unites friend to friend and brother to brother.

Resolved, That we most deeply and affectionately sympathize with the widows and children in the painful loss they have sustained in the death of those who were their strength and support.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary send a copy of the above to the families of the deceased brethren.

B. S. TAPPAN, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to, and the preamble and resolutions unanimously adopted.

Bro. Cushman presented a communication from Bro. William Smith, Senior Warden of Belmont Lodge, U. D., which on his motion was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion, Bro. Jennings was added to committee to whom was referred so much of the R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master's address as related to the Grand Senior Warden.

The Grand Lecturer, Bro. Wilson, made a verbal report of his proceedings during the past year.

On motion of Bro. Cooper, Bro. Paxton was added to the committee to whom was referred so much of the R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master's address as related to Masonic Schools.

Bro. Johnston offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will elect a Grand Lecturer at the time of electing the other Grand Officers.

On motion of Bro. Tappan, the resolution was laid on the table and made the order of the day for 9½ o'clock to-morrow.

On motion of Bro. Jennings,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to ascertain and report to this Grand Lodge the extent and probable value of its interest in the edifice in which it holds its communications.

Bro. Jennings was appointed but asked to be excused from serving upon said committee, whereupon the chair appointed Bros. Mellen, Rose and Stewart, and on motion of Bro. Cooper, Bros. Tappan and Johnson were added to said Committee.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned until to-morrow at half-past nine o'clock, A. M.

TUESDAY, January 21st, 9½ o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Representatives same as yesterday, with the addition of Bro. John G. Hast-

ings, representative of Washington Lodge, No. 3, Bros. John Walker and Alex. McKowen, of Liberty Lodge, No. 37.

Bro. Walker presented application for a new Lodge, at Holmesville, which was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The order of the day being the resolution offered by Bro. Johnston, in relation to the Grand Lecturer, the same was taken up for consideration, whereupon the following was adopted, on motion of Bro. Johnston:

Resolved, That the resolution offered yesterday, in relation to the election of the Grand Lecturer, be referred to a select committee of five, to be appointed by the Chair.

2d. That said committee be instructed to deliberate and report upon the propriety of dividing the State into Masonic districts, as provided in the second section of the fifth article of the Constitution, as also the propriety of appointing Deputy Grand Masters for such districts, in accordance with said provision of the Constitution.

The committee appointed were Bros. Slade, McKowen, Hastings, Finney and Wilkins.

The appeal of William H. Estes, from the action of Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, expelling him from the benefits of Masonry, was presented and referred to the Standing Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

The order of the day being the election of officers for the ensuing year, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election, which resulted as follows:

R. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
M. W. B. S. TAPPAN.....	Grand Senior Warden.
THOMAS J. JOHNSTON.....	Grand Junior Warden.
N. W. CAMP.....	Most Rev. Grand Chaplain.
JOHN A. WILCOX.....	Grand Orator.
CHARLES A. LACOSTE.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
R. N. DOWNING.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
WILLIAM COOPER.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
W. W. WILKINS.....	Grand Marshal.
THOMAS C. FINNEY.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
J. E. WATTS.....	Grand Pursuivant.
D. H. LANE.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

On motion of Bro. Downing,

Resolved, That the Grand Officers elect be installed to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Bro. Johnston called up his resolution from the table relating to a remission of dues to Lafayette Lodge, No. 53, for 1844, and on his motion, the same was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to half-past nine o'clock, A. M., to-morrow

WEDNESDAY, January 22d, 9½ o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Same representatives as yesterday, with the addition of Bro. J. A. Frydenger, from Grand Gulf Lodge, No. 41.

Bro. Josiah Marshall, Benjamin Franklin Lodge, No. 46.

Bro. Tappan, Grand Senior Warden elect, declined accepting that office, and moved another election for Grand Senior Warden. Whereupon, Bro. Harvey W. Walter was unanimously elected Grand Senior Warden.

The Grand Master elect then appointed Bro. B. S. Tappan R. W. Deputy Grand Master.

The Committee on Accounts made the following report:

The Committee on Accounts make report that they have examined the accounts of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and compared the several vouchers with the items of the accounts and found the same correct, and have also examined an account of Thomas C. Finney for repairs, for \$21 38, and have allowed the same.

A. M. PAXTON, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

On motion of Bro. G. A. Wilson, from the committee appointed under a resolution offered by Bro. Tappan, relative to the family of the late Grand Master, said committee were discharged, and a special committee, consisting of Bros. Tappan, Clavenger and Paxton, were appointed in place thereof.

Bro. Jos. O. Walker made the following report:

The committee to whom was referred so much of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master's and Grand Master's (*pro tempore*) address as relates to Schools, beg leave to report:

That your committee, after a careful consideration of the subject, are disposed to look upon the establishment of a great Central School or College by your body, under existing circumstances, as impracticable.

The funds which would arise from the dues of dimitted brethren, is not sufficient of itself, to support such an institution, whilst it is, however of sufficient importance to demand the most serious consideration of this body, in disposing of it judiciously. Your committee beg leave to report the following resolutions as an embodiment of their views upon this important subject:

Resolved, That the dues required by resolution of our last Grand Annual Communication, of the brethren of this State, who are not members of any of the Subordinate Lodges, be collected by the respective Lodges within whose jurisdiction they reside.

2d. That the Subordinate Lodges appropriate the fund arising from this source exclusively to the education of the destitute Masonic children within their jurisdiction.

3d. That the Subordinate Lodges be required to make out and forward annually to this Grand Lodge a correct statement of the money received by them from this source, and the number of children whom they have thus educated.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. O. WALKER,
S. A. WALLACE,
WM. HYDE,
A. M. PAXTON,
Committee.

On motion said, report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Palmer, from the Select Committee, made the following report:

The Select Committee, to whom was referred the resolution for an allowance of the sum of \$360 80, being the amount of expenses incurred by Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, for a called session of the Grand Lodge, by order of the Grand Master, and also in paying the last tribute of respect to our late Grand Master Vannatta, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report, that in view of all the circumstances, they recommend the payment of the same by the Grand Lodge.

The committee would also recommend that the sum of \$39 50 be allowed to

Ancient York Lodge, No. 38, for expenses incurred by that Lodge on the same occasion.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

THOS. PALMER,
D. B. CLAVENGER,
W. WING,
Committee.

On motion of Bro. Cushman, the report was received.

Bro. Martin moved that the report be agreed to. Lost.

Bro. Tappan moved its recommitment, and question being had thereon, it was decided in the negative.

On motion of Bro. Cushman, the report was laid upon the table.

On motion of Bro. Downing, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the installation of the Officers elect.

R. W. Past Grand Master George A. Wilson, installed the M. W. Grand Master, John A. Quitman, and the latter then installed the R. W. Deputy Grand Master, Benjamin S. Tappan, and the other Grand Officers elect.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 22d, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN.....	Grand Master.
R. W. HARVEY W. WALTER.....	Grand Senior Warden.
THOMAS J. JOHNSTON.....	Grand Junior Warden.
Rev. N. A. CAMP.....	Grand Chaplain.
J. A. WILCOX.....	Grand Orator.
CHARLES A. LACOSTE.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLE.....	Grand Secretary.
R. N. DOWNING.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
WM. COOPER.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
W. W. WILKINS.....	Grand Marshal.
THOMAS C. FINNEY.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
J. E. WATT.....	Grand Pursuivant.
D. H. LANE.....	Grand Steward and Tyler

Representatives came as in the morning.

Bro. Cooper, from Committee on Complaints and Appeals, made the following report:

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals, beg leave to report: That they have had under consideration the appeal of Jeremiah Cooper, late of Carrollton Lodge, No. 36, from the sentence of expulsion therefrom, and judging from the evidence submitted to them, are of opinion that the Lodge acted perfectly right, and recommend that the action of Carrollton Lodge be sustained.

They have also had under consideration the appeal of William H. Estes, and after a careful and thorough examination of the testimony before them, are of opinion, that Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, in expelling said Estes, acted in accord-

ance with the principles of our Order, and recommend that their action be approved.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. COOPER,
ELIAS FISHER,
J. A. WILCOX,
Committee.

Which report, on motion, was received.

Bro. R. W. G. S. Warden moved to agree to the report.

On motion of Bro. Johnston, Bro. Booker, of Alabama, who appeared as the advocate of Wm. H. Estes, had permission to address the Grand Lodge, on his behalf. Whereupon, Bro. Booker made an eloquent appeal in his favor.

Bro. Tappan then moved that the report and motion to adopt, be laid upon the table until to-morrow, 10 o'clock, A. M.; which motion was lost. Whereupon a division of the question to adopt the report was called for, and upon the question being had upon the adoption of so much of the report as relates to the case of William H. Estes, it was decided in the affirmative. The vote was then taken upon the adoption of the report so far as relates to Jeremiah Cooper, which was decided in the affirmative. In both cases unanimously.

The report was then agreed to.

The report made by select committee on the claims for allowance by Vicksburg and Ancient York Lodges, was called up from the table, and division of the question called for, and so much of the report as relates to allowing to said Lodges, the amounts severally expended by them, for the funeral expenses of the late Grand Master Vannatta, to-wit: to Vicksburg Lodge, \$322 00, and to Ancient York Lodge, \$25 00; was adopted.

The question was then taken upon so much of the report as relates to allowing said Lodges for expenses incurred upon the call of an extra session of the Grand Lodge at Vicksburg, and decided in the negative.

The report as amended was then agreed to.

Bro. Paxton, from the committee to whom was referred the resolution relative to the late Grand Master's family, reported the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will appropriate the sum of — dollars, to the support and sustenance of the widow and orphans of the late Grand Master.

Resolved, That the further sum of — dollars per annum, be appropriated towards the education of the infant daughters of our late worthy Grand Master.

On motion said report was laid upon the table.

Bro. Downing offered a resolution relative to the right of the Grand Lodge to tax dimitted members, which was, on his motion, laid upon the table, and made the order of the day for 10 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

On motion of Bro. Jennings, Bro. Martin was added to the committee on the case of the late Grand Senior Warden.

Bro. Frydenger offered the following:

Resolved, That in consideration of the destitute situation of the widow of the late M. Rev. Grand Chaplain, that an annuity of \$100 be granted her during her widowhood, by the Grand Lodge.

On motion, said resolution was laid upon the table, and made the order of day for 10 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

Bro. Slade, from the committee to whom was referred the subject of election of Grand Lecturer, made the following report:

The Committee to whom was referred the election of a Grand Lecturer, beg leave to report: That in obedience to the provisions of said resolution, they have given the subject as much attention as circumstances will allow. The Committee are well aware that the continuance of the office of Grand Lecturer, will be attended with some considerable expense. That about \$1000 annually, of the funds of the Grand Lodge will in all probability be consumed in the continuance of this office. This is certainly a draft upon the resources of the Grand Lodge, which, upon superficial enquiry, would seem extravagant and useless, but in view of all the circumstances connected with the subject, your Committee deem the expense unavoidable. We have regarded with infinite pleasure, the prosperous condition of the fraternity, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, at this present time. To preserve this state of prosperity, and to extend the usefulness of the order, a proper diffusion of Masonic knowledge, seems to the Committee to be absolutely indispensable. To accomplish this end, the Committee are unable to suggest any plan so efficient, so prompt and so certain, as the election of a Grand Lecturer, to be remunerated with a reasonable compensation, whose duty it shall be attend the various Subordinate Lodges, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and lecture them thoroughly upon the degrees of which said Lodges are composed. It may be urged that the same end might be attained, and the expense avoided, through the agency of the respective delegates, from the various Subordinate Lodges to the Grand Lodge. If this mode of diffusing Masonic knowledge were so efficient and certain, it seems to the Committee there would not now be a call upon them to deliberate and make this report. Since the first organization of this Grand Lodge, the various Subordinate Lodges have had annual representations herein, yet we see that this natural channel of Masonic knowledge has been at times almost obstructed, and at others running sluggishly. So far as the Committee have observed, they are convinced that if the uniformity of work depends upon the delegates from the Subordinate Lodges, the same evil which is intended to be avoided will continue. The delegates from the Subordinate Lodges generally, if not always, find as much business for their consideration as they can dispose of, and return seasonably to their homes, within the time allotted for that purpose. And after having attended to the various duties of the Grand Lodge, they find but little time to devote to the acquisition of Masonic knowledge. But admitting that each delegate was to receive one or two lectures during each session of the Grand Lodge, then in all probability, a portion of them would be too unpracticed and unskilled in the office, and capacity of Grand Lecturers, to communicate that amount of information that would have the desired result. In view of the end sought to be attained, contemplated by this report, and inasmuch as the Committee cannot suggest a better, they therefore suggest to the M. W. Grand Lodge, with due deference to the opinion of those brethren who differ from them in the adoption of the resolution proposed, that it be the duty of the Grand Lecturer, so elected, to visit each Subordinate Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, at least once in every year for which he is elected, and lecture thoroughly such Lodge, in the three first degrees of Masonry, and that said Grand Lecturer make annual reports in writing of the Lodges he may visit, the condition of said Lodges, and the mode and manner of their work.

In reference to that portion of the duties assigned to this Committee in relation to the "propriety of dividing the State into Masonic Districts, as provided in the 2d section, of the 5th article of the Constitution, also the propriety of appointing Deputy Grand Masters for such Districts, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution," this Committee have given it their consideration. What is the object to be attained in the division of the State into Masonic Districts? Is it that the fraternity may be instructed in a uniform system of work? If such be the object, would not the institution of many lecturers be likely to entail many discrepancies rather than uniformity upon the Order within this State; but admitting that these Deputy Grand Masters would work in uniformity with each other, and with the ancient landmarks of

the Order, the Committee are of the opinion, that under this system of instruction, the interest of the fraternity would greatly suffer, for the want of proper information, and the Order would relapse into that state of apathy and confusion, that characterized it during the period of its history in Mississippi, when a similar resolution was adopted by this Grand Lodge to the one now under consideration, where Deputy Grand Masters were in existence in all the Masonic Districts throughout the State. The Committee are therefore of the opinion, that to divide the State into Masonic Districts, and appoint Deputy Grand Masters therein, is inexpedient; that the system would prove inefficient, and that so far from its proving profitable to the Order, would tend to thicken the veil which still hides from the view of a large portion of the fraternity in this State, that light which it is so earnestly desired should be imparted to them.

Your Committee, therefore, beg leave to recommend to the favorable consideration and adoption, by this Grand Lodge, as the best means of carrying into effect the views by them reported, the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge go into the election of a Grand Lecturer during its present Communication, for the term of one year, from the date of his election, whose duty it shall be to visit all the Subordinate Lodges, at least once, during the year for which he shall be elected, and remain with each Lodge so visited until the officers and members thereof be sufficiently instructed to be enabled to conduct their work in the manner approved by this Grand Lodge. That it shall be the duty of said Grand Lecturer to attend on the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, and report the extent of his labors, as well as the condition said Subordinate Lodges were found and left by him, in relation to Masonic knowledge and skill in work.

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer, so elected, be allowed the sum of \$— in consideration of his services, to be paid out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, not otherwise appropriated; one-half of which sum, to be paid at the discretion or pleasure of said Grand Lecturer, within the first six months after his election, and the other half to be paid after the said Grand Lecturer shall have made his report, as contemplated in the preceding resolutions, and be discharged therefrom.

T. P. SLADE,
W. W. WILKINS,
THOS. C. FINNEY,
A. MCKOWEN,
Committee.

On motion, said report was received and laid upon the table, and made the order of the day for 11 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

Bro. Wilcox offered the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge deem it expedient to amend the eighth section of the first article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, by striking out the word "Natchez," and inserting the word "Jackson" in said section.

Bro. Hyde moved to amend by striking out the word "Jackson," and inserting the "Seat of Government," which amendment having been accepted,

On motion of Bro. Johnston, the resolution was laid upon the table, and made the order of the day for nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

On motion, the Grand Lodge then adjourned until 9 o'clock, A. M. to-morrow.

THURSDAY, Jan. 23d, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment. Same representatives.

The Grand Secretary, from a special committee, presented the following report :

The committee who were appointed to ascertain and report to this Grand Lodge the extent and probable value of its interest in the edifice in which it holds its Communications, have discharged the duty of ascertaining the extent of the interest of the Grand Lodge in the Masonic Hall, and pray the permission to report :

That a special committee of this Grand Lodge, appointed to examine the proceedings of the Building Committee, at the Grand Annual Communication, in 1830, (folio 265 of the records,) made a report which was received and agreed to, in which they state that the Building Committee had purchased the lot upon which the Masonic Hall stands, for \$2000, which amount had been paid and the deed for the same received and recorded. That they had contracted for the building of the Hall for \$10,000, and about \$500 besides for contingencies, and took bond and security from the contractor. That they had already paid the architect \$9600. They had borrowed, on individual credit, \$6000, making the whole expended and accounted for by the Building Committee to exceed \$13,450. The lot was purchased of John Henderson, Esq., now deceased, and there is no question as to title.

On page 159, book A, of same records, we find the following entry :

A copy of a resolution of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, appropriating the sum of five hundred dollars, to aid in the erection of a Masonic Hall, in the city of Natchez, was received from said Lodge, and also a statement that a subscription to the amount of four hundred dollars has been obtained for the same purpose by said Lodge.

A copy of a resolution of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, also appropriating the sum of five hundred dollars, for the same purpose, was received, as also a statement that a subscription to the amount of twelve hundred dollars had been obtained for the same purpose by said Lodge.

A copy of a resolution adopted by the Natchez Royal Arch Chapter, appropriating the sum of one thousand dollars to aid in the erection of a Masonic Hall, in the city of Natchez; *provided*, that the said Chapter have the sole and exclusive use of one room in the said Hall, was also received, and the said appropriations accepted.

On folio 202, same records, in the Grand Treasurer's report, we find an acknowledgment of the receipt of \$500 from Harmony Lodge, No. 1; \$300 from Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2; \$200 from the Natchez Royal Chapter, No. 1; and \$270 from private donations by individual brethren of Natchez. On folio 221, Grand Treasurer Rowan reports the receipt of \$150, paid by Natchez Royal Arch Chapter, and \$1132 from private subscription of brethren and citizens of the city of Natchez. On folio 222, the Grand Secretary, in his account, credits Harmony Lodge, No. 1, with two hundred dollars, the balance of that Lodge's subscription. On folio 248, in the Grand Secretary's account, February, 1830, Natchez Royal Arch Chapter is credited with \$426 as part of their subscription to the Hall, and the further sum of \$124 in full. He also credits individual subscribers with the further sum of \$65.

At the same Communication, folio 251, S. Sprague presented the following resolution of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, adopted January 2d, 1830 :

Resolved, That in addition, the Grand Lodge do, by resolution, agree that this Lodge shall have the privilege of meeting in the Masonic Hall free of rent forever; that the Worshipful Master of this Lodge subscribe the sum of \$300 in addition to what this Lodge has already paid to the Grand Lodge for the purpose of finishing the Masonic Hall, and that the Treasurer be authorized to pay said amount to the Building Committee of the Masonic Hall out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Which resolution was referred to D. Greenleaf, of Washington Lodge, No. 3; A. L. Wills, of Clinton, No. 16; and John J. Edwards, of Leake, No. 17.

E. Whittemore, (page 252) presented the following resolution of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, passed January, 1830 :

Resolved, That Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, loan the sum of \$700, or as much as they conveniently can collect, not to exceed that sum, to the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi.

Which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on the resolution of Harmony Lodge.

The report of the committee may be found on page 257, in the words following:

The committee to whom was referred the resolution and proposition of Harmony Lodge to make a donation of \$300 to this Grand Lodge, made the following report: That,

WHEREAS, In consideration of the very liberal donations heretofore made by Harmony Lodge, No. 1, to this Grand Lodge, for the purpose of building a Masonic Hall, and in consideration of the very liberal contributions made by the individual members of said Lodge, for the purpose aforesaid, amounting in the aggregate to near seventeen hundred dollars; therefore,

Resolved, That upon the payment of the further sum of \$300 by said Harmony Lodge, No. 1, to the Building Committee of this Grand Lodge, they shall, in behalf of this Grand Lodge, be authorized to guarantee to said Harmony Lodge, No. 1, the use of the Masonic Hall, in which to hold their meetings and sittings free of rent, so long as they shall continue to work under their present charter and be known by the name of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, and so long as said Masonic Hall shall stand and be used as such, conditioned that they shall be entitled to occupy and use said Masonic Hall only when not in the immediate use and occupation of the Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

DANL. GREENLEAF,
JOHN J. EDWARDS,
A. L. WILLS,

Committee.

The committee to whom was referred the resolution of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, made the following report:

That the proposal said Lodge makes to loan this Grand Lodge, in its present embarrassments, the sum of \$300, evinces a liberal and fraternal feeling, therefore,

Resolved, That the Building Committee be authorized to accept the proposed loan, upon such terms and upon such interest, not exceeding ten per cent., as may be agreed upon between them and said Lodge.

2d. That if Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, should prefer making a donation of the sum of \$300, in addition to what they have already given, the Building Committee shall be authorized to accept the donation on the same terms which have been extended to Harmony Lodge, No. 1.

DANL. GREENLEAF,
JOHN J. EDWARDS,
A. L. WILLS,

Committee.

"On motion, said reports were received and agreed to, and the resolution adopted."

The following report was made by the Grand Secretary, P. F. Merrick, (page 275,) February, 1831:

That "the Grand Lodge owed \$889 32, due 21st March, 1831, and that the Grand Lodge only depended upon the receipts at that Communication, and that the Natchez Royal Arch Chapter, and Harmony Lodge No. 1, will be able to loan them, they having passed resolutions to loan the Grand Lodge all the money they could."

"That "Harmony Lodge, No. 1, and Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, have each paid \$300 subscriptions to the Masonic Hall, for which, by resolution of the Grand Lodge, at its last Communication, the Building Committee are authorized to guarantee to them the use of the Masonic Hall, free of rent, so long as said Hall stand and be used as such."

In the same report, he says, "I had fifty copies of a circular printed directed to the Subordinate Lodges, soliciting pecuniary aid. Columbus Lodge, No. 5, is the only one besides Harmony and Andrew Jackson, that offered the Grand Lodge any aid."

On folio 277, is the Grand Secretary's account rendered to Grand Lodge, February, 1832, in which he credits the Natchez Royal Arch Chapter with loan of \$228, and Andrew Jackson Lodge, with subscriptions of \$300; the individual members of the Clinton Lodge, No. 16, with \$16; and Washington No. 3, with \$5, making \$4,195, paid by the Chapter, Harmony and Andrew Jackson Lodges, and their individual members, over and above their annual dues to the Grand Lodge, as Lodges, and as members. The balance of the funds for the completion of the Hall, were derived from some bank stock, the Lottery, subscriptions of the citizens of Natchez, and dues of Subordinate Lodges.

The building is paid for in full, the last note having been paid in 1836.

It is, perhaps, proper to state that the Council occupy the Royal Arch Chapter room, only by consent of the Chapter. Locke Lodge No. 52 occupies the building for their meetings by sufferance of the Grand Lodge.

The Chapter and Council finished and furnished the room in the third story, at their own expense, and the Chapter, Council, Harmony and Andrew Jackson Lodges have always united, and so far has Locke Lodge since its establishment, with the Grand Lodge, in furnishing and decorating the room in which the Grand Lodge is held, paying equal proportions—but not for repairs of exterior building.

It will be seen from the foregoing, that the legal title to the Masonic Hall, is in the Grand Lodge, but that "the Natchez Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, have the sole and exclusive use of one room in said building."

That "Harmony Lodge, No. 1, are entitled to hold their meetings in said Hall, free of rent, so long as they shall continue to work under their present charter, and be known as Harmony Lodge, and so long as the Masonic Hall shall stand, and be used as such, conditioned, that they shall be entitled to occupy and use said Masonic Hall, only when not in immediate use and occupancy of the Grand Lodge."

And that "Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, have the same rights and privileges under the same conditions, *mutatis mutandis*, as to names."

As to the value of the interest of the Grand Lodge, owing to the peculiar circumstances, your committee cannot say. The rents derived from the rooms in the basement, have heretofore, and will probably hereafter, exceed the expenses of repairs, though the rents are now low. So long as occupied by the Grand Lodge for their communication, it has a value to the Grand Lodge, which it cannot have under other circumstances.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. P. MELLEN,
THOS. J. JOHNSTON,
W. W. WILKINS,
B. S. TAPPAN,
ROBERT STEWART,
Committee.

The report was received, and on motion of Bro. Jas. O. Walker, was agreed to.

The order of the day, for 9 o'clock, being the resolution amending the Constitution, which resolution is in words following:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge deem it expedient to amend the eighth section of the first article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, by striking out the word "Natchez," and inserting "the seat of government" in said section.

The vote by ballot being called for, it was decided in the affirmative, yeas 62, nays 53.

The resolution, therefore, lies over for the consideration of the Grand Lodge at their next Grand Annual Communication, and for final action.

On motion of Bro. Johnston,

Resolved, That the Subordinate Lodges in this State be requested to consider the subject of removing the Grand Lodge from Natchez, and instruct their representatives respectively, in accordance with their conclusions.

The order of the day for 11 o'clock, being the resolution offered by Bro. Frydenger, relative to the widow of our late Grand Chaplain, was next considered, and on motion of Bro. Walter, was amended so as to read as follows :

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars be paid to the widow of our late Most Reverend Grand Chaplain.

Said resolution was then adopted.

The next order of the day being Bro. Downing's resolution relative to demitted brethren, the same was taken up for consideration, and on motion of Bro. Tappan, it was referred to a special committee of three. The Chair appointed Bros. Tappan, Downing and G. A. Wilson, said committee.

The next order of the day being the report of the committee on the election of Grand Lecturer, the same was called up for consideration.

On motion of Bro. Alexander, all after the word "Resolved," in the resolutions reported by said committee were stricken out, and the following inserted :

Resolved, That a Grand Lecturer be elected and that he be compensated according to the provisions of the Constitution.

And the question being on the resolution as amended, the ayes and noes being called, was decided in the affirmative ; ayes 61, noes 54.

Brother Johnston offered the following resolutions :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge is but the creature and instrument of the Subordinate Lodges, and that its Treasury contains but the aggregate funds of the Subordinate Lodges.

2. That the Constitution be so construed, by the Grand Lodge, as to intend that the Grand Lecturer be compensated out of the Grand Treasury.

3. That we proceed at 3 o'clock, this evening, to the election of Grand Lecturer, in accordance with the above construction of the Constitution.

4. That the Grand Lecturer receive the sum of ——— dollars for his services.

Bro. Walter moved to fill the blank in last resolution with the sum of \$1000. The ayes and noes were called for, and the result was 59 ayes, 65 noes ; so the motion was lost.

Bro. Johnston moved the sum of \$900, which was lost. Ayes 52, noes 68.

Bro. Johnston moved the sum of \$800, whereupon Bro. Cushman moved the indefinite postponement of the resolutions and motion, which motion prevailed, ayes 72, noes 43.

On motion of Bro. Camp,

Resolved, That Bro. G. A. Wilson, P. M. and Grand Lecturer, be requested to deliver in open Lodge, lectures upon first three degrees in Masonry, exemplifying the correct mode of work therein, at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning,

On motion of Bro. J. O. Walker,

Resolved, That Ripley Lodge, No. 47, be allowed sixty days within which to file with brother Grand Secretary its annual Returns and pay its dues to Grand Lodge, for the year 1844.

Bro. Hyde offered the following resolution, amending the Constitution of the Grand Lodge ; which was adopted and lies over until the next Grand Annual Communication, for final action.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge deem it expedient so to amend the 10th

section of the first article of the Constitution as to read as follows: "The Grand Lodge may appoint, whenever they may deem it expedient, some well informed brother to visit and instruct the Subordinate Lodges, who shall receive such compensation as the Grand Lodge may deem just and proper."

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, January 28, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

R.: W.: Harvey W. Walter, Grand Senior Warden, as Grand Master.

R.: W.: Bro. Wilson announced that Bro. Carnegie, P.: G.: M.: of Masons in Missouri, was in the ante-room, and on his motion, Bros. Lacoste, Wilcox and Cushman were appointed a committee to invite Bro. Carnegie to enter, which duty having been performed, Bro. Carnegie was received in due form—who, in a few happy remarks, acknowledged his pleasure at the manner of his reception.

The order of the day being lectures from the Grand Lecturer, on motion of Bro. Walter, the resolution making them the order for this hour, was reconsidered, and on motion of Bro. Jennings, R.: W.: Bro. Carnegie's name was added to Bro. Wilson's in said resolutions, and 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow, inserted as the hour for said lectures.

Bro. Camp, from the Committee on Subordinate Lodges, made the following report:

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report, that upon a patient and most thorough examination, there appear to be in the State of Mississippi, forty-six regularly chartered Lodges, and five Lodges under dispensations. Annual returns from thirty-three have been examined, and in substance were found correct, viz: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 16, 17, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 32, 33, 35, 36, 36, 37, 38, 42, 43, 45, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 61, 63, Marion, U. D.; DeKalb, U. D.; and Silas Brown, U. D.

The Committee have also examined returns from Macon, No. 40, for the years 1842 and 1843, Shady Grove, No. 43, for the year 1843, and Olive Branch, No. 34, for the year 1843, and find the same correct.

No returns have as yet been received from Nos. 3, 9, 29, 31, 34, 39, 40, 46, 47, 50, 60, Belmont, U. D.; and Valley, U. D.

Petitions from the requisite number of brethren, and properly recommended, at Houston, in Chickasaw county; at Raleigh, in Smith county; and at Holmesville, in Pike county, praying for dispensations for Lodges at those places respectively, have been examined, and being strictly correct, your committee respectfully recommend that their prayers be granted and dispensations issue upon payment of the usual fees. Your committee would also recommend that our brethren in Panola county, who have been working under a dispensation in the town of Belmont, have permission to move their Lodge to the town of Panola, in Panola county, and to change the name of said Lodge from Belmont to Panola, or to give them a new dispensation free of charge.

The proceedings of Silas Brown Lodge, U. D., and of DeKalb Lodge, U. D., and the by-laws of said Lodges, have been carefully examined by your committee, and finding nothing in them conflicting with the ancient landmarks of the Order, have been approved, and recommend that charters be granted to said Lodges.

In consideration of the peculiar circumstances in which Gallatin, Tappan

and Lafayette Lodges have been, and are now, we respectfully recommend that all the dues from each of them to the Grand Lodge be remitted.

A petition from the officers of Grenada Lodge, No. 31, asking for a remission of dues for four years, in virtue of their pecuniary difficulties in attempting to erect a Masonic hall, having been referred to your committee, and the subject examined by them, they would respectfully recommend that all past dues be remitted.

A petition from Sam'l A. Griffith and fourteen other brethren, asking for a dispensation, has been before the committee, but being without the recommendation of the nearest Lodge, as required by the Constitution, they cannot recommend the granting of the prayer of the petitioners until the requisitions of the Constitution be complied with.

A petition signed by George W. Hively and six others, M. M., properly recommended and vouched for as such, praying for a dispensation for a new Lodge, to be called the "Evening Star Lodge," on Steen's Creek, Rankin county, has also been under the consideration of your committee, and they do now respectfully recommend that a dispensation be granted them, but before the same is granted, they would recommend, however, that the said petition and an accompanying letter from the Secretary *pro tem.* of Coleman Lodge, No. 29, be referred to a special committee of —, to report as soon as practicable.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

N. W. CAMP,
W. W. COOK,
THOS. PALMER,
J. A. WILCOX,
J. M. McDONALD,
R. N. DOWNING,
T. P. SLADE,
Committee.

On motion, said report was received and laid upon the table.

Bro. W. F. Stearns presented the following report :

The undersigned, Committee on Foreign Communications, beg leave to report, that they have received and examined communications from the Grand Lodges of the several States of Ohio, Louisiana, Arkansas, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Connecticut, Maryland, Tennessee, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, New York, Georgia and Virginia, Territories of Iowa and Florida, and the Republic of Texas.

Your committee have found in their communications most gratifying evidences of a rapid increase in the members of our order within the United States; the general prevalence of an unrivalled and encouraging degree of prosperity among our sister Grand Lodges; the awakening and active exercise of a Masonic spirit promises at no distant day to realize the highest hopes of the friends of our time-honored institution.

Almost every subject of general interest to the fraternity, treated of in the communications submitted to the undersigned, has already been acted on by this Grand Lodge, and your committee, in the performance of the duties assigned them, conceive it to be necessary to call the attention of Grand Lodge to one point only, which is the difference of opinion, unfortunately existing among some of the Grand Lodges of our country in relation to the merits of the Trestle-board recently published by Bros. Moore and Carnegy, under the authority of the late Baltimore Convention. Being satisfied that the general use of the Trestle-board as a text book, would be calculated to secure uniformity of work among our Lodges; that it is far less liable to well founded objections than are the works heretofore used by the fraternity in America; that it has been approved and adopted by a majority of the Grand Lodges of our Union, and that it would now be impracticable, even were it desirable, either to obviate the objections urged against the work, or prevent its extension, circulation and use, your committee therefore strongly recommend the repeal of the preamble and resolutions in relation to the Trestle-board, adopted at our

last Grand Annual Communication, and the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge approves and recommends for the use of the Subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction, the Masonic Trestle-board lately published by Bros. Moore and Carnegie, under the direction of the Baltimore Convention, held at Baltimore, in 1843.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WM. F. STEARNS,
W. W. WILKINS,
S. ALEXANDER,
JNO. FALLS,
E. PROFILET,
G. T. MARTIN,
Committee.

On motion of Bro. Walter, the report was received and agreed to, and resolution unanimously adopted.

Bro. Cushman, from a select committee, made the following report:

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of the propriety of the continuance of the contract entered into by this Grand Lodge, with certain private individuals, in 1839, for the drawing of a Lottery, beg leave to report: That if the original proposition were presented to your committee to contract for the drawing of a Lottery, in which this Lodge was a party to the contract, or in the remotest degree interested, your committee would give it their unqualified condemnation: However much the Lottery system is to be deprecated as a species of gambling, and should, therefore, be discountenanced by the Masonic fraternity; yet the contract has been made in good faith by this Lodge, and the individual to whom it was concluded, having been put to considerable expense, so far as he has progressed, and incurred large loss, and is desirous of continuing the scheme with a view of repairing his former losses. These premises considered, we therefore, would not recommend a rescission of the contract made by the Lodge, if additional loss should befall the individual with whom the contract was made, as is alleged would be the case, but would recommend the final completion of the scheme as soon as possible. They recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby authorized to superintend the drawing of said Lottery, according to the terms and stipulations contained in the original contract entered into by the lawful agents of the Grand Lodge, the party with whom they contracted giving bonds in such amount and with such sureties as the Grand Master may approve.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. F. CUSHMAN,
FRANCIS GILDART,
J. M. McDONALD,
Committee.

On motion of the Grand Secretary, his name was stricken out of said resolution, and Bro. Robert Stewart's inserted in place thereof.

Said report was then, on motion, received and agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Palmer,

Resolved, That the dues to this Grand Lodge from Tappan, Gallatin and Lafayette Lodges, be remitted, agreeably to the recommendation of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. Camp,

Resolved, That the R. W. Grand Secretary be authorized to issue Dispensation for Lodges at Houston, Chickasaw county; at Raleigh, Smith county; at Holmesville, Pike county; and at Steen's Creek, Rankin county, upon payment of the usual fees.

On motion of Bro. Cushman,

Resolved, That the R. W. Grand Secretary be directed to issue a Dispensation to the brethren of Belmont, to hold a Lodge at Panola to be called Panola Lodge, without further charge.

On motion of Bro. Camp,

Resolved, That the R. W. Grand Secretary be ordered to grant charters to Silas Brown Lodge, U. D., and DeKalb Lodge, U. D., upon payment of the usual fees.

On motion of Bro. Wilcox,

Resolved, That the sum of \$78, which stands charged against Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32; \$82 against Pearl Lodge, No. 23, and \$60 80 against Oxford Lodge, No. 33, be severally credited to these Lodges and charged to the proper individual.

Worshipful Bro. Alex T. Douglass, from New Orleans, was announced, and on motion of Bro. Lacoste, Bro. Douglass addressed the Grand Lodge upon the subject of Masonic work, as conducted and permitted by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana; after which, on motion of Bro. Lacoste, it was

Resolved, That the subject matter of the remarks of R. W. Bro. A. T. Douglass be referred to a select committee, to consist of R. W. Bros. G. A. Wilson, D. S. Jennings, H. W. Walter, T. J. Johnston and Bro. Wing for consideration, and that they report to this Grand Lodge the result of their deliberations thereon.

On motion of Bro. Martin, the R. W. Grand Master was added to said committee.

Bro. Lacoste, from the committee on the Grand Senior Warden's case, made the following report:

The undersigned, a majority of the Committee to whom was referred that portion of the R. W. Deputy Grand Master's address, which relates to the expulsion by Silas Brown Lodge, U. D., of C. R. Prezriminski, at the time of said expulsion, Worshipful Master of said Lodge and Grand Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge, beg leave to state, that they have examined the subject carefully and submit the following resolutions as embodying their views and respectfully recommend their adoption by this Grand Lodge:

Resolved, That a Subordinate Lodge has not the right to try its Master, but that he is amenable to the Grand Lodge alone.

2d. That any five members of his Lodge, or the Deputy Grand Master, may impeach the Master of a Subordinate Lodge, before the Grand Master, who shall order an investigation of the charges; and if in his opinion they are well founded, and of a character to justify the proceeding, he may suspend the delinquent and summon him to appear at the ensuing meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. A. LACOSTE,
THOS. J. WILSON,
G. T. MARTIN,
Committee.

Bro. Jennings, from the minority of the committee, presented the following counter report:

The committee to whom was referred that portion of the communication of the M. W. Grand Master which relates to the expulsion by Silas Brown Lodge, U. D., of C. R. Prezriminski, at the time of such expulsion, Worshipful Master of said Lodge, and Senior Warden of the Grand Lodge, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to submit the following report:

The committee have not been able to discover anything in the Constitutions, Ancient usages or fundamental principles of Masonry, by which the relative power of a Grand and Subordinate Lodge, over delinquent Masons, is ascer-

tained or determined. If Grand Lodges are to be considered as deriving their existence from Subordinate Lodges, their power must be derived from the same source, and only such power parted with by the Subordinate, as is expressly and exclusively vested in the Grand Lodge. The Constitutions of the Grand Lodges of the different States, and of England, have almost all dissimilar provisions on this subject, thereby demonstrating that expulsions are regulated, so far as regards the Jurisdiction to inflict them, by each Grand Lodge according to its own conceptions of justice and expediency. It appertains to what might be called the police of Masonry.

In the absence of any provision of the Constitution of a Grand Lodge, regulating expulsions, in whom exists the power to expel? We answer in a Subordinate Lodge, even if the culprit be an officer of the Grand Lodge, or both. This view is, we think, fully recognized and sustained by the ninth section of the fourth article of the Constitution. It is in these words: "Every member of the Grand Lodge shall be a member of some Subordinate Lodge, and upon demission, suspension or expulsion from a Subordinate Lodge, the seat of such person in the Grand Lodge becomes *ipso facto* vacated." And in the resolutions published under the title of "General and Permanent Regulations," it is declared, "That every Lodge, Subordinate to this Grand Lodge, has full power to call before it and punish, according to Masonic usages, by reprimand, suspension or expulsion, all delinquent Masons residing within its Jurisdiction, whether they are members of such Lodge or not." Thus it will be seen, that the power of Subordinate Lodges to expel, is recognized as an inherent, not a delegated authority, without any limitation, except that which restricts its exercise to the Lodge having, on local or personal grounds, jurisdiction of the person.

In conclusion, we recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, a Subordinate Lodge has full power for a sufficient cause, to expel any of its members.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

B. S. TAPPAN,
D. S. JENNINGS.

On motion, both reports were laid upon the table and made the order of the day for to-morrow, at three o'clock, P. M.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned to nine o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

FRIDAY, Jan. 25th, 9 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by the Most Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The report from the Committee on Subordinate Lodges was called up, and, on motion, agreed to.

The order of the day being lectures from R. W. Bros. Carnegie and Wilson, Bro. Wilson lectured on the First Degree; when, on motion, it was

Resolved, That Bro. Carnegie be requested to lecture at 7 o'clock, P. M.

Bro. Carnegie then addressed the Grand Lodge upon the subject of the Masonic College in Missouri.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

FRIDAY, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges made the following report:

That they have examined returns from Hiram Lodge, No. 9, and find the same to be correct. They have also examined the By-laws of Tappan Lodge, No. 59, and finding nothing therein conflicting with the ancient landmarks of the Order, respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the By-Laws of Tappan Lodge, No. 59, be approved by this Grand Lodge.

N. W. CAMP, Chairman.

Which report was received and agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

The reports on the Grand Senior Warden's case were the order of the day for 3 o'clock.

Bro. Downing moved the adoption of the resolution reported by the chairman, Bro. Jennings, but on motion of Bro. Walter, the whole subject was laid upon the table again and made the special order for nine o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

Bro. Cooper offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will elect a Grand Lecturer, whose duty it shall be to visit all the Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, during the ensuing year, if possible, and thoroughly instruct them in the work.

2d. That as a compensation for his services, he shall receive from the Treasurer of each Lodge so instructed, at the rate of one dollar for each member of said Lodge.

3d. That the amount so paid to the Grand Lecturer be collected from the members of said Lodges by the Secretaries thereof, in addition to their yearly dues.

The yeas and nays were called for upon the motion to indefinitely postpone said resolutions, and resulted in 48 yeas and 34 nays, so said resolutions were indefinitely postponed.

On motion of Bro. Downing,

Resolved, That we proceed to the election of Grand Lecturer to-morrow morning at half-past nine o'clock.

On motion of Bro. Walter, the report of special committee upon the subject of the family of late Grand Master was taken up.

Bro. Downing moved to fill the blank in first resolution with the sum of \$100 ; which was lost.

Bro. Downing then moved the sum of \$90 ; lost.

Bro. Gildart then moved the sum of \$80 ; lost.

On motion of Bro. Walter, the report was indefinitely postponed, yeas 84, noes 8.

On motion of Bro. Johnson,

Resolved, That in view of the very liberal and charitable donations made by the Subordinate Lodges and the fraternity generally, throughout the State, for the relief of the widow and orphans of our late Grand Master, Samuel W. Vannatta, this Grand Lodge deems it unnecessary at present to appropriate any sum of money towards that object.

Bro. Jennings, from Select Committee, made the following report :

The Committee to whom was referred that part of the communication of the R. W. Grand Master, which relates to the physical and mental pre-requisites of candidates for the honors of Masonry, have had the subject under consideration, and beg leave to submit the following report :

Masonry originated in an age of the world comparatively rude and barbarous ; at a time when strength of body was more valued than vigor of intellect. It was instituted by an association of men, united together for the prosecution of physical labors. But even at this early period their ties and obligations

were fraternal. This made them solicitous to exclude from the fraternity all who were likely to become burdensome rather than useful, and consequently to require that initiates should be whole in body as well as sound in mind. But the world has changed and Masonry has changed. A subsistence is now more easily obtained by mental endowments than by physical perfection. This institution has now become speculative and moral. It has entirely lost its operative character. The reason for requiring bodily perfection in candidates, has ceased to exist. To continue the regulation would be absurd. The Grand Lodges in the United States, and in Europe, have generally dispensed with it. We recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, when the deformity of a candidate for initiation, is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of Masonry, his admission will not be an infringement upon the landmarks, but will be perfectly consistent with the spirit of our institution.

2d. That the Subordinate Lodges be recommended to increase their caution in regard to the admission of persons likely to become chargeable to the institution.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DUDLEY S. JENNINGS, Chairman.
THOS. J. JOHNSTON,
JAMES A. CHAPMAN.

On motion of Bro. Downing, the report was received and agreed to, and the resolutions adopted.

Bro. Downing, from Select Committee, made the following report:

The undersigned majority of the Committee to whom was referred the subject of the right of this Grand Lodge to tax dimitted members for the purpose of educating indigent orphans of deceased Masons, having had the matter under consideration, beg leave to report, that, in the opinion of your Committee, this Grand Lodge has the right to tax dimitted members for the purposes aforesaid, and the action taken by this Grand Lodge at the last Annual Communication be sustained, and for the purpose of carrying out the several resolutions passed by this Grand Lodge, upon this subject, your Committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That it is right and proper to tax dimitted brethren in good standing for the purpose aforesaid.

2d. That it shall be the duty of the Subordinate Lodges to collect the tax so imposed, and make return to this Grand Lodge the names of all such brethren who may refuse to pay the same.

3d. That the names of the brethren so refusing when returned, shall be published in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

Which is submitted.

R. N. DOWNING,
G. A. WILSON,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned for one hour.

FRIDAY, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Grand Lodge having been informed that Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, had work on hand in the third degree,

On motion of R. W. Bro. Wilson,

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge adjourn until to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock, and that the lecture by R. W. Bro. Carnegie be given in Andrew Jackson Lodge.

Whereupon, the Grand Lodge adjourned.

SATURDAY, January 25th, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by M. Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The special order for 9 o'clock, being the report and counter report upon the case of the Grand Senior Warden,

Bro. Jennings moved to strike out majority report, and insert minority; which motion was lost—Ayes 33, noes 41.

The report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Johnston offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That, whereas, Silas Brown Lodge, U. D., having expelled C. R. Precriminski, for reasons which are deemed by the Grand Lodge sufficient to justify expulsion, and whereas, this Grand Lodge, having decided that said C. R. Precriminski, being the Master of said Silas Brown Lodge, could not be tried and expelled by said Lodge; therefore, be it

Resolved, (by the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi.) That C. R. Precriminski, be, and he is hereby expelled from all the rights, privileges and benefits of Masonry.

On motion of Bro. Downing,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to issue a charter to Valley Lodge, U. D., upon said Lodge making returns, and paying their dues to the Grand Secretary within sixty days, and upon approval of their work and By-Laws.

2d. That the surrender of the charter of Coleman Lodge, No. 29, be accepted, and that the Grand Secretary cause the assets of said Lodge to be collected, the debts paid, if assets sufficient, and pay the balance over to the Grand Treasurer.

On motion of Bro. Downing,

Resolved, That the committee appointed at the last Annual Communication to have the Masonic Hall repaired, be excused from the discharge of that duty, and that the Grand Secretary be authorized to have the gutters re-coppered, and the cornice repaired, to be paid out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

On motion of Bro. Cooper,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to have published three hundred copies of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, at this Communication, and forward two copies thereof to each Subordinate Lodge, and one to each delegate.

On motion of Bro. Walter,

Resolved, That Bro. Grand Secretary and Bro. W. Cooper be requested to collect the various amendments to the Constitution, adopted by this body since 1840, and that the same, together with the other constitutional provisions and

Permanent Regulations, now in existence, be printed with the report of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.*

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

SATURDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Brother Parker Smith offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That fifty dollars of the dues of Asylum Lodge, No. 63, be remitted.

Upon question being taken thereon it was lost.

Brother Alexander offered the following resolution, which was lost :

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer be compensated in proportion to the amount of labor performed by him during the past year.

R. W. Bro. Johnston presented the following report from a select committee :

The committee to whom was referred the information communicated to this Grand Lodge, in relation to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, have considered the subject, and beg leave to report the following resolutions as embodying their views, to-wit :

Resolved, That the information communicated to this Grand Lodge in relation to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana, be referred to a committee consisting of three brethren, to be appointed by the chair, whose duty it shall be to visit and confer with the said Grand Lodge, or the officers thereof, and obtain as far as practicable, personal information upon the subject referred to the committee reporting these resolutions.

2. That the M. W. Grand Master be requested, should said committee deem it necessary upon conferring with him, to call a special meeting of the Grand Lodge, for the purpose of receiving the report of said committee, and adopting such measures as it may deem proper.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JNO. A. QUITMAN,
D. S. JENNINGS,
GEO. A. WILSON,
H. W. WALTER,
THOS. J. JOHNSTON,
WM. WING,

The Grand Master appointed as said committee R. W. brothers Wilson, Jennings and Walter.

On motion of Bro. Jennings, the M. W. Grand Master was added.

The Committee on Accounts, by Bro. Watts, reported that they had examined and allowed T. A. S. Doniphan's account for \$3 50, and T. C. Finney's account for 21 38.

Which report, on motion, was received and agreed to.

On motion of Most Reverend Bro. Camp,

*NOTE—The changes made in the Constitution between the issuance of the edition of 1830, printed on page 120, and the year 1845, are not so numerous as to require reprinting the Constitution, more especially as the bringing together in one volume of the proceedings of the several years, enables the changes made to be easily followed. The Permanent Regulations referred to were a collection of resolutions adopted from time to time by the Grand Lodge, all of which are to be found in their proper place in the proceedings of the years in which they were adopted.

F. S.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge, are most respectfully tendered to our R.: W.: Bro. Geo. A. Wilson, late Grand Lecturer of Mississippi, for his valuable lectures on the first three degrees of Masonry.

The Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Lecturer, for the ensuing year, which resulted in the election of R.: W.: Geo. A. Wilson.

On motion of Most Reverend Bro. Camp,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are most respectfully tendered to our R.: W.: Bro. S. W. B. Carnegy, of Missouri, for the instruction he has so kindly given to us the present session.

On motion of R.: W.: Bro. Johnston,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary issue a charter to Marion Lodge, U. D., upon payment of usual fees.

On motion of same,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hail with pleasure the return of the M.: W.: Grand Master, John A. Quitman to the active duties of the Halls of Masonry.

2d. That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be respectfully tendered to Bro. Quitman, for the able, impartial and dignified manner in which he has discharged the arduous duties of the Chair during this Communication.

Resolved, That the next Grand Annual Communication be held on the third Monday in January, A. L. 1846.

Prayer by Most Reverend Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in Ample Form.

WM. P. MELLEN, Grand Secretary.

TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1846.

NATCHEZ, January 19th, 1846.

PRESENT:

R. W. BENJ. S. TAPPAN.....	Deputy Grand Master.
H. W. WALTER.....	Grand Senior Warden.
JACOB J. DOTY.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
C. A. LACOSTE.....	Grand Treasurer.
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
R. N. DOWNING.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
W. H. PAXTON.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
THOS. C. FINNEY.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
J. E. WATTS.....	Grand Pursuivant.
D. H. LANE.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Prayer by Rev. Bro. D. L. Russell.

The M. W. Grand Master John A. Quitman appeared and took his seat.

Upon calling the roll of Subordinate Lodges, the following named were represented, as follows, to-wit :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—Wm. P. Mellen, H. Polkinghorn, Jr., and P. L. Mitchell.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—T. C. Finney and D. G. Benbrook.

Washington, No. 3—Frederick J. Poor.

Columbus, No. 5—I. M. Knapp.

Clinton, No. 16—G. H. Gray.

Leake, No. 17—W. S. McMurtry.

Quitman, No. 18—M. A. Banks and Jonas D. Smith.

Raymond, No. 21—R. N. Downing.

Pearl No. 23—James Smith.

Lexington, No. 24—Ira S. Mitchell.

Gallatin, No. 25—S. H. Johnson and S. J. Scott.

Vicksburg, No. 26—B. S. Tappan, Ch. J. Searles and W. H. Paxton.

Grenada, No. 31—W. H. Stevens.

Oxford, No. 33—J. M. Howry.

Holly Springs, No. 35—J. O. Walker.

Carrollton, No. 36—Elias Fisher.

Ancient York, No. 38—A. Dixon and J. E. Stewart.

Monroe, No. 39—James Carpenter.

Macon, No. 40—Chs. B. Ames.

Grand Gulf, No. 41—J. A. Frydenger.

Yazoo, No. 42—Ths. P. Slade.

Shady Grove, No. 43—E. W. Corley.
 Salem, No. 45—H. W. Walter.
 Benjamin Franklin, No. 46—W. Cooper.
 Pythagorean, No. 48—Benjamin Holt.
 Greensboro', No. 49—W. W. Marshall.
 Hernando, No. 51—Andrew C. Satterfield.
 Locke, No. 52—C. A. Lacoste, E. Profflet, and P. Price.
 Sterling, No. 54—James A. Chapman.
 Chulahoma, No. 55—W. B. Spinks.
 Harrison, No. 57—J. E. Watts.
 Tappan, No. 59—J. J. Birdsong.
 St. Albans, No. 60—A. B. Bacon.
 Eureka, No. 61—Jacob J. Doty, John Tackett.
 Marion, No. 62—Sylvanus Evans.
 Asylum, No. 63—Parker Smith.
 DeKalb, No. 64—A. B. Dawson.
 Silas Brown, No. 65—G. W. Mitchell.
 Louisville, U. D.—Ths. J. Hawkins.
 Vannatta, U. D.—B. F. Reynolds.
 Madison, U. D.—Jno. A. Cheatham.
 Houston, U. D.—W. S. Featherston.
 Holmesville, U. D.—S. A. Mathews.
 Evening Star, U. D.—Geo. W. Hively.
 Warren, U. D.—Wm. F. Stearns.

Rev. Bro. J. R. Finley, agent of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and President of Masonic College at Lagrange, was announced and duly received.

The Grand Master John A. Quitman, addressed the Grand Lodge as follows:

Brethren of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

Since the last Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge our ancient and time-honored institution has been eminently prosperous in this State. Pursuing its even and unobtrusive way, dispensing its charitable blessings to the afflicted, diffusing the principles of benevolence and good will to man, and inculcating every moral and social virtue, Freemasonry must prosper among a free, an intelligent and virtuous people.

During the past year Dispensations have been granted to nine new Lodges, and I doubt not that the returns will show an unusual increase of members.

The reports of the Grand Treasurer and Secretary will exhibit the condition of the finances of the Grand Lodge. Although they present the Treasury exhausted, yet when we take into consideration the increased expenses for repairs made on the Masonic Hall by the Grand Secretary under the order of the Grand Lodge, we have reason to be satisfied with the result. The income of the Grand Lodge is steadily increasing. With economical expenditures we may indulge the hope of being enabled after the current year, to set apart annually considerable sums for charitable, benevolent or educational purposes.

The correspondence of the Grand Lodges of foreign countries and of our sister States, has presented some matters of interest to the fraternity to which I beg leave to call your attention.

The Grand Lodge of Maryland, by resolutions adopted at their session in May last, have again presented the subject of the formation of a General Grand Lodge of the United States. This is a question of great importance to Masonry in this country, and will, no doubt, receive your serious consideration. It has heretofore been more than once agitated, but always unsuccessfully. Distinguished names have been arrayed on both sides of the question. Without intending to express a decided opinion upon its policy, I am inclined to view the proposal with favor, if a representation analogous to that of the States in the Electoral College for President, can be secured.

I submit to you a communication from the Grand Lodge of Texas, recom-

mending the appointment of resident delegates, near each Grand Lodge, and a letter from the Grand Master of Louisiana upon the same subject. I have declined to act upon this matter in anywise, without the express authority of this Grand Lodge.

At our last Annual Communication, upon the representation and request of many Master Masons residing in the State of Louisiana, a committee was appointed to visit and confer with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana or its officers, and obtain as far as practicable, personal information upon the subjects referred to them, and I was requested, should said committee deem it necessary upon conferring with me, to call a special meeting of the Grand Lodge for the purpose of receiving their report and of acting thereon. As required by resolution, a majority of the committee visited New Orleans, but I am not informed of the result of their mission, as no conference was had with me upon the subject, the committee doubtless deeming it unnecessary to make their report until this regular Communication. In the meantime the subjects which gave rise to their mission have assumed additional interest from the more formal action of Lodges and bodies of Masons in our sister State, some of which have been transmitted to us. I beg leave to lay before you the memorials, resolutions and letters in relation to this matter which have been received, and to recommend the whole subject to the most deliberate and serious consideration of this Grand Lodge. With the report of the committee which visited New Orleans, and the documents submitted, you will have all the requisite information. I will add that in my opinion it is due to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana as well as to the respectable memorialists and petitioners, that we should take deliberate but final and decisive action upon this delicate subject.

I have thus briefly touched upon the leading matters which have been presented during the recess of the Grand Lodge. For other details, I refer you to the reports of the Grand Treasurer and Secretary.

May that All Seeing Eye which for so many centuries has watched over our ancient and honorable Order, see nothing in the proceedings of this body, which wisdom or virtue would desire to blot out.

On motion of Grand Senior Warden, the address was ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

The Grand Secretary presented his account and made the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

In obedience to the directions of the Grand Lodge, given at the last Grand Annual Communication, dispensations were issued to brethren to erect new Lodges, as follows, to-wit :

Panola Lodge, at Panola, county of Panola; Houston Lodge, at Houston, county of Chickasaw; Holmesville Lodge, at Holmesville, county of Pike; Vannatta Lodge, at Raleigh, county of Smith; Evening Star Lodge, at Steen's Creek, county of Rankin.

And charters were issued to

Silas Brown Lodge, at Jackson, county of Hinds; DeKalb Lodge, at DeKalb, county of Kemper.

Dispensations have been issued under the direction of the Grand Master, as follows, to-wit :

Wilson Lodge, at Enterprise, county of Clarke; Madison Lodge, at Vernon, county of Madison; Camden Lodge, at Camden, county of Madison; Louisville Lodge, at Louisville, county of Winston.

Since the last Communication the following named Lodges have made returns and paid their dues :

Columbus, No. 5; Grenada, No. 31; St. Albans, No. 60.

Olive Branch, No. 34, owes balance of \$21.

Monroe, No. 39, and Greensboro, No. 49, have made returns but paid no dues.

Ripley, No. 47, paid \$30 on account of dues, but have made no returns.

No returns or dues have been received from Macon, No. 40, nor Brooklyn, No. 50, for 1844.

Quitman, No. 18, is in arrears for several years for both returns and dues.

Nothing has been heard from Valley Lodge, which was erected by dispensation at Greenwood, Carroll county, in 1844, although duly notified of the extension of time given for them to make return.

The gross receipts for the past year were \$2130 38.

The mileage and per diem deducted, amounting to \$864 84, leaves as net receipts, \$1365 54.

The income for the present year will, probably, exceed this amount a little.

By resolution of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary was instructed to have the cornice of the Hall repaired and the gutters re-coppered.

Upon examination it was found necessary to have the old cornice, which was solid, entirely removed, and a new box cornice substituted. This being equally as cheap and far more durable. In having this done, several courses of the shingles were to be removed, and the roof being in a leaky state, the shingles having been on about nineteen years, and the difference between having the roof reshingled and having the work done without, being so small that one of the proposers for the work refused to make any difference at all in his proposals, and all who examined the roof, being of opinion that it was absolutely necessary to have the same reshingled for the preservation of the building, I accepted proposals for it and had the work done. The contracts will be found very reasonable and are as follows :

James Hardie, for carpenter's work and materials for cornice, blocking course and shingling.....	\$736 00
Walker & Collins, new copper and work.....	177 00
Thos. H. Quarterman, painting cornice and blocking course.....	35 00
C. Reynolds, repairing pavement.....	17 50
Total.....	\$965 50

I present also accounts of H. Polkinghorn, Jr., for \$17 00, and Thos. H. Quarterman, \$3 00, for repairs on rooms in basement; T. A. S. Doniphan, \$5 00.

The painting of the Grand Lodge Hall and Chapter room and outside of building and some other repairs, including white-washing, has been done at the expense of the Natchez Chapter, Council and Subordinate Lodges, that for the Lodge and Refreshment rooms was at the exclusive cost of Locke Lodge, No. 52.

I requested Bro. Geo. T. Swann, of Brandon, to collect the dues to and pay the debts of Coleman Lodge, No. 29, so far as the assets of said Lodge would permit. He accepted of the appointment, but subsequently, finding it inconvenient to attend to the business, by his request, I appointed Bro. W. L. Murray, late Tyler of said Lodge, to attend to the settlement of the affairs of Coleman Lodge. I have, as yet, no report from him.

The returns of the Lottery managers are herewith submitted, exhibiting the sale of \$2,350 40 worth of tickets.

The rooms in basement story have been under rent but part of the time, and have been entirely without tenants since Christmas.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WM. P. MELLE, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer each presented their accounts current showing the total receipts for the year to have been \$2185 76; expenditures, \$2210 76; balance on hand, \$16 27. Which were referred to the Committee on Accounts.

On motion of Bro. Walter,

Resolved, That the report of the Commissioners heretofore appointed to visit the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, be made this day at 3 o'clock, P. M., and that said report be the special order for that hour.

2d. That this body proceed to the election of its Grand Officers on to-morrow at 10 o'clock, A. M.

On motion of Grand Secretary,

Resolved, That an opportunity be offered to Rev. J. R. Finley, agent of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, to address the Grand Lodge on the subject of his mission, and that 4 o'clock, this afternoon, be the hour fixed for said address.

Bro. Bacon introduced certain resolutions, adopted by St. Albans Lodge, No. 60, relative to the jurisdiction of said Lodge, which were, on his motion, received and referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Master presented resolutions adopted by Mississippi Lodge, No. 56, which, on motion of Bro. Walter, were referred to a select committee of three, consisting of Bros. Wilson, Searles and G. D. Mitchell.

The Grand Master announced the Standing Committees as follows, to-wit:

On Foreign Relations—Bros. Slade, Profflet, Howry, Bacon, Doty, Featherston.

On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. Cooper, Fisher, Searles.

On Subordinate Lodges—Bros. Downing, Gray, Johnson, Ira S. Mitchell, Stewart, Walker and Birdsong.

On Unfinished Business—Bros. Chapman, James Smith and Paxton.

On Accounts—Bros. Cooper, Benbrook and Doty.

On motion of Bro. James Smith,

Resolved, That a special committee of three be appointed to enquire into the expediency of fixing an uniform minimum rate of charges in Subordinate Lodges for conferring degrees therein, with instructions to report by bill, or otherwise.

On the Committee provided by said resolution, the chair appointed Bros. James Smith, Stevens and Poor.

Bro. I. S. Mitchell offered the following resolution, which, on his motion, was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges:

Resolved, That the dues from Lexington Lodge, No. 24, for the year 1845, be remitted to said Lodge for the purpose of aiding in building a Masonic Hall in the town of Lexington.

Bro. Bacon presented a similar resolution on behalf of St. Albans Lodge, No. 60; referred to same Committee.

Bro. Wilson presented a memorial from Macon Lodge, No. 40, asking for remission of dues for the same reasons, which was also referred to same Committee.

Bro. Banks offered the following resolution, which, on his motion, was referred to same Committee:

Resolved, That the dues, previous to the year 1845, of Quitman Lodge, No. 18, be remitted by the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Mathews presented the petition of Holmesville Lodge, U. D., for remission of dues for reasons given therein, which was likewise referred to same Committee.

Bro. Searles presented certain resolutions of Ancient York Lodge, No. 38, which were referred to the same select committee to whom were referred the resolutions of Mississippi Lodge, No. 56.

On motion of Bro. Walter,

Resolved, That so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to the communications of the Grand Lodges of Maryland and Texas, be referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

2d. That so much thereof as relates to the communications of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and to the documents relating to Masonry in Louisiana, be referred to a special committee of five.

The chair appointed Bros. Wilson, Jennings, Walter, Doty and Downing, the committee on last resolution.

On motion of Bro. Bacon,

Resolved, That the Select Committee on the resolutions from Mississippi Lodge, No. 56, be instructed to take into consideration and report upon the proper mode of punishing the vices of drunkenness and profanity and preventing the practice of them among Masons.

On motion of Bro. Tappan,

Resolved, That the Lodges Under Dispensation be referred to a special committee of three, to-wit: Bros. Cooper, Searles and Paxton.

Bro. Frydenger offered the following:

WHEREAS, Great discrepancy exists throughout the State among the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, relative to the work; and a Grand Lecturer has been employed by this Grand Lodge to visit the Lodges throughout the State for the purpose of removing such discrepancy; and,

WHEREAS, Notwithstanding the appointment of such Grand Lecturer said discrepancy still exists, be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the course heretofore adopted by this Grand Lodge for the purpose of instructing the Subordinate Lodges is insufficient to accomplish the object desired, and that it is their duty to adopt some more efficient measures, to establish an uniformity of work among the Lodges of this State.

2d. That a committee of — be appointed by the Grand Master whose duty it shall be to exemplify the work of the three first degrees of Masonry to this Grand Lodge, during its present session, and to impart to its members such information as is necessary and useful to illustrate fully said work.

3d. That so soon as said committee shall have prepared themselves for the performance of the duties assigned them — hours shall be duly appropriated by this Grand Lodge for the purpose of attending to the instructions, exemplifications and illustrations of said Committee.

On motion of Bro. Jennings, said resolutions were laid on the table.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

MONDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Representation of Subordinate Lodges same as in the morning, with the addition of

Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, by John Burkhalter.

Liberty Lodge, No. 37, by David Jewitt.

R.: W.: Bro. Tappan presented the petition of Orlando Davis, appealing from the decisions of Ripley Lodge, No. 47, suspending, and subsequently expelling him from the benefits of Masonry, which, on his motion, was referred to Committee on Complaints and Appeals, with instructions to report forthwith.

The commissioners sent to visit the Grand Lodge of Louisiana last year,

made their several verbal reports, whereupon, on motion of R. W. Bro. Tappan, it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to the committee who visited the city of New Orleans on a mission for the benefit of Masonry, for their zeal in the prosecution of the enterprise.

R. W. Bro. Cooper, from Committee on Complaints and Appeals, made the following report:

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals have had under consideration the appeal of Orlando Davis, of Ripley Lodge, No. 47, and after a careful examination of said appeal and the memorial accompanying the same, report: That the offence charged against Bro. O. Davis being an offence against the by-laws, (a failure to pay his dues), was not sufficient, in their opinion, to justify the extreme measure adopted. They, therefore, recommend that the act of expulsion by Ripley Lodge in said case, be reversed, and that Bro. O. Davis be restored to all the privileges of Masonry on his paying the amount of dues he may be in arrears to said Lodge.

W. COOPER,
ELIAS FISHER,
C. J. SEABLES,
Committee

On motion, said report was received and agreed to.

On motion of R. W. Bro. Jennings,

Resolved, That the sentence of expulsion pronounced against Bro. Orlando Davis, by Ripley Lodge, No. 47, be, and the same is hereby reversed.

Bro. Jennings then moved to reinstate Orlando Davis to all the privileges of Masonry, which motion was laid upon the table.

R. W. Bro. Finley, agent of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, addressed the Grand Lodge on behalf of the Masonic College of Kentucky, pressing the claims of that institution with great eloquence, and closed with presenting a proposition for the adoption of this Grand Lodge.

Whereupon, on motion of Bro. Parker Smith, it was

Resolved, That the propositions and papers submitted to this Grand Lodge by Rev. Bro. Finley, of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, he referred to a special committee of five, with instructions to report upon the same as early as practicable.

Committee appointed by the Chair on said resolution—Bros. Parker Smith, Doty, Ira S. Mitchell and Cooper.

On motion of Bro. Bacon, Bro. Johnson was added to Committee on Lodges under Dispensation.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

TUESDAY, 20th Jan., A. L. 5846, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The same representation, with the addition of Canton Lodge, No. 28, by John Montgomery. Prayer by Rev. Bro. Finley.

Bro. Featherston presented a petition of Houston Lodge, U. D., which, on his motion, was referred to committee on Lodges under Dispensation.

Bro. Howry moved the postponement of the election of Grand Officers until 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow, which motion was lost.

Bro. Frydenger presented the petition of J. Callahan, appealing from the judgment of Grand Gulf Lodge, No. 41, expelling said Callahan from the benefits of Masonry, which, on motion of Bro. Frydenger, was referred to Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

Bro. Paxton, from the Committee on Unfinished Business, presented the following report :

The committee appointed to examine and report the unfinished business of the last session of the Grand Lodge, beg leave to report the two following resolutions to amend the Constitution, which were laid upon the table, and which require the final action of the Grand Lodge at the present communication, to-wit :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge deem it inexpedient to amend the eighth section of the first article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge by striking out the word "Natchez," and inserting the seat of government in the said section.

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge deem it expedient so to amend the 10th section of the first article of the Constitution so as to read as follows : "The Grand Lodge may appoint whenever they may deem it expedient, some well informed brother to visit and instruct the Subordinate Lodges, who shall receive such compensation as the Grand Lodge may deem just and proper."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES A. CHAPMAN,
W. H. PAXTON.

Which report was received and laid upon the table, on motion of Bro Downing.

Bro. Holt presented the memorial of Bro. Nason, of Pythagorean Lodge, No. 48, upon the subject of the form of publication of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, which memorial, on motion, was referred to a select committee of five.

The committee consist of Bros. Holt, Slade, Mellen, Lacoste and Cooper.

On motion of Bro. Carpenter,

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to inquire into the right by which the Olive Branch Lodge, No 34, holds the jewels formerly belonging to Leaf River Lodge, No. 19, and as to the proper disposition of those jewels.

The Grand Master appointed as said committee, Bros. Carpenter, Burkhalter, Bacon, Matthews and Stevens.

Bro. Paxton, from Committee on Lodges under Dispensation, presented the following resolutions, which were adopted :

Resolved, That charters be granted to Wilson Lodge, U. D., Joseph Warren Lodge, U. D., Madison Lodge, U. D., Evening Star Lodge, U. D., Camden Lodge, U. D.

Resolved, That a dispensation be granted for a Lodge at Decatur, to be called Evergreen; for one at Westville, to be called Westville, and one for a new Lodge in DeSoto cntty, to be called Ebenezer.

Bro. Fisher offered the following :

Resolved, That so much of the Resolution of the Grand Lodge adopted last year, which makes it the duty of Subordinate Lodges to require payment of dues from dimitted brethren, whose pecuniary condition is such that the payment ought not to be enforced, be repealed.

On motion of Bro. Jennings, laid upon the table.

Bro. Tappan called up Bro. Jennings' resolution relative to Bro. O. Davis, as modified by Bro. Jennings, to-wit :

Resolved, That the reversal by this Grand Lodge, of the sentence of expulsion pronounced against Bro. Orlando Davis, by Ripley Lodge, No. 47, restores him to all the privileges of Masonry, except to membership in said Lodge.

Bro. C. B. New, from Mississippi Lodge, No. 56, appeared, produced his credentials and took his seat.

On motion of Bro Gray,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge adopt the following rule in regard to the election of officers: That candidates be nominated, and those in nomination be requested to retire until the balloting be commenced.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows:

M. W. JOHN A. QUITMAN	Natchez	Grand Master.
R. W. BENJ. S. TAPPAN.....	Vicksburg	Deputy Grand Master.
S. H. JOHNSON.....	Gallatin.....	Grand Senior Warden.
WM. H. STEVENS.....	Grenada.....	Grand Junior Warden.
WM. F. STEARNS.....	Holly Springs.....	Grand Orator.
DANIEL L. RUSSELL	Richland.....	Grand Chaplain.
C. A. LACOSTE	Natchez	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN	Natchez.. ..	Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Representation same as before, with the addition of:

Thomas Hinds Lodge, No. 58, by John H. Duncan.

Panola Lodge, U. D., by William Smith.

The Grand Lodge proceeded with the election of officers. The following is the result:

R. W. PARKER SMITH.....	Woodville.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
A. C. SATTERFIELD.....	Hernando	Grand Junior Deacon.
JAMES SIMS.....	Holly Springs.....	Grand Marshal.
W. B. SPINKS.....	Chulahoma.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
PERE PRICE	Natchez.....	Grand Pursuivant.
D. H. LANE	Natchez.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Grand Master elect appointed Bro. Benj. S. Tappan Deputy Grand Master.

On motion of Bro. Jennings, the Grand Secretary was ordered to have publication made of the result of said election.

The Grand Officers elect were duly installed by the Grand Master.

On motion, Bro. New was added to the committee to whom was referred the proposition of the Masonic College at LaGrange, Ky.

On motion of Bro. Tappan, the report of the Committee on Unfinished Business was called up, and on his motion, the amendment of the Constitution proposed relative to Grand Lecturer, being the amendment offered to the 10th section of the 1st article, was rejected.

On motion of Bro. Jennings, the consideration of the first resolution reported, being the amendment to substitute "The Seat of Government" for "Natchez," in the 8th section, 1st article, was made the order of the day for 10 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

Bro. Frydenger called from the table the resolutions offered by him on yester-

day, relative to the appointment of a committee to lecture before the present Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Walter, the blank in second resolution was filled with "three," and the blank in third resolution was filled with the words "from 7 to 10 o'clock at night," and the resolution passed.

Whereupon, the Grand Master appointed Bros. Wilson, Stevens and Doty the committee to lecture.

On motion, Bro. Hawkins was added to said committee of lecturers.

Bro. Knapp offered the following :

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge that the practice of Subordinate Lodges charging or requiring a fee for admission to membership of brethren that have been entered, passed and raised in other Lodges, is an infringement of their rights and, consequently, not Masonic, and that their By-Laws in relation to the same, be so amended that the practice of requiring a fee be abolished.

The question being upon the adoption of said resolution, it was lost.

The Grand Lodge adjourned to nine o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 21, 10 o'clock A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Representation same as heretofore, with the addition of Thomas Hinds Lodge, No. 58, by William B. Johnson.

The appeal of S. R. Adams, from the judgment of Sterling Lodge, No. 54, expelling him from Masonry ;

The appeal of Bryant W. Hatch, from the judgment of Gallatin Lodge, No. 25, expelling him from Masonry ;

And the appeal of Isaac N. Kent, from the judgment of Raymond Lodge, No. 21, were severally presented, and on motion, were referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

Bro. Duncan presented the petition of Thomas Hinds Lodge, No. 58, for remission of dues, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. S. H. Johnson introduced the following :

WHEREAS, The members of Grand Gulf Lodge, No. 41, are subject to great inconvenience on account of their not having a regular Masonic Hall ; and

WHEREAS, They have it in contemplation to erect a suitable edifice as soon as their means shall enable them to do so. Therefore be it

Resolved, That the dues from said Lodge to the Grand Lodge be remitted, with the view to that sum being used in aid of building a suitable Hall in the town of Grand Gulf.

Said preamble and resolutions, on motion, were referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. L. Evans introduced the following :

Resolved, That the dues of Marion Lodge, No. 62, to the Grand Lodge for the year 1845, be remitted.

Which was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Bacon presented the appeal of John Jones from the judgment of Monroe Lodge, No. 39, expelling him from the benefits of Masonry; which was referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

The Grand Master appeared and took his seat.

Bro. James Smith, from a select committee, made the following report:

The special committee to whom was referred the subject of fixing a uniform minimum rate of charges in Subordinate Lodges, for conferring degrees, beg leave to report: That in consequence of the want of uniformity in the charges made by the various Lodges under this Jurisdiction, dissatisfaction to some extent has arisen and must continue to increase unless the proper correction be applied by this Grand Lodge.

The fixing a uniform minimum rate of charges for the three degrees by this Grand Lodge will, in the opinion of your committee, give satisfaction to all, tend to preserve the harmony so happily existing between all the different Lodges under our care, and promote the interests and responsibility of our ancient and honorable Order.

A multiplicity of words on the subject your committee deem unnecessary, for your committee believe that the craft generally are convinced of its propriety and necessity, and the example of other Grand Lodges affords additional proof of its utility.

Your committee would therefore beg leave to offer the following resolution for the adoption of the Grand Lodge:

Resolved, That from and after the first day of ——— next, the following shall be the lowest rate for which degrees shall be conferred by the different Subordinate Lodges under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, to-wit: For the Entered Apprentice's Degree, the sum of \$——; for the Fellow Craft's Degree, the sum of \$——; for the Master Mason's Degree, the sum of \$——.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAMES SMITH,
WM. H. STEVENS,
F. J. POOR,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and the first blank in the resolution filled with "October," and the other blanks with "\$10" each.

On motion of Bro. Featherston, the resolution was amended so as to read as follows:

Resolved, That the Subordinate Lodges under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge be requested to make the sum of ten dollars the lowest rate for conferring either of the degrees which they are authorized to confer by their charters.

The resolution was then adopted as amended, and the report agreed to.

Bro. Gray offered the following:

Resolved, That in order to promote an uniformity of working in the different Subordinate Lodges, the Grand Master shall appoint, on the first evening of each Grand Annual Communication, a committee to consist of not less than three, to be denominated the "Working Committee," whose duty it shall be to exemplify the three first degrees of Masonry, at least three times during each session of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Howry, the resolution was laid upon the table.

Bro. Walter offered the following:

Resolved, That the Jurisdiction of any Lodge, in regard to the membership of any Mason, or the right of conferring degrees upon any person, or the right to try any brother for an alleged offence, may be yielded to any sister Lodge which may, upon official notice of such concession, assume the conceded jurisdiction in either of said cases.

Bro. Bacon moved the following amendment by adding, "And that the exclusive Jurisdiction of any Subordinate Lodge, shall not extend to an adjoining county in which no Lodge is working."

The question being had on the amendment, it was lost.

The Grand Lodge then refused to adopt the original resolution.

Bro. Paxton, from the Committee on Lodges under Dispensation, reported the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That a charter be granted to Houston Lodge in accordance with the prayer of the petitioners.

On motion of Bro. Tappan,

Resolved, That Houston Lodge have until the next Grand Annual Communication to pay their dues for 1845.

On motion of Bro. Featherston,

Resolved, That Houston Lodge have ninety days from and after the adjournment of the Grand Lodge to pay the sum due for their charter.

Bro. Searles presented the following report :

The Committee on Lodges under Dispensation report : That they have examined the By-Laws, minutes, etc., of Panola Lodge, U. D., and find them in accordance with the usages of the Order, and offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That a charter be granted to Panola Lodge, U. D., upon payment of the usual fees.

CHAS. J. SEARLES,
W. H. PAXTON.

On motion the report was received and agreed to and the resolution adopted.

On motion of Bro. Wilson, the vote was reconsidered.

Whereupon, Bro. Howry moved to lay the report and resolutions on the table; which motion did not prevail.

On motion of Bro. Downing, the report was again agreed to and the resolution adopted.

Bro. Wilson, from a select committee, made the following report :

The select committee to whom has been referred the preamble and resolutions of Mississippi Lodge, No. 56, upon the subject of duelling, have had the same under consideration, beg leave to report : That, in the opinion of your committee, the resolutions of Mississippi Lodge condemning the practice of duelling, should meet with the cordial approbation of this Grand Lodge, and also of all good men and true throughout the world. As the best mode of preventing difficulties existing among Masons, or between Masons and other citizens, your committee recommend to the Grand Lodge to request each Subordinate Lodge to create within its body a standing committee, to be called the Committee of Grievance, to be appointed or elected by the Lodge, whose duty it shall be to report to each regular meeting, any irregular, immoral or unmasonic conduct upon the part of any of the Masons residing within its Jurisdiction, upon which report the Lodge may proceed to investigate such grievance thus brought to its knowledge.

There has also been referred to your committee, a resolution instructing them to take into consideration the proper mode of punishing the vices of drunkenness and profanity, and to prevent the practice of them among Masons.

The committee only deem it necessary in reference thereto, to say that the ancient constitution and Masonic regulations contain a sufficient expression of Masonic opinion upon this subject, and in the opinion of your committee, it is not expedient or proper for this Grand Lodge to legislate either upon the vices or the punishments which have been established for their prevention and correction.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

On motion of Bro. Tappan, the report was received, laid upon the table, and the committee discharged.

Bro. Paxton presented the following report :

The Committee on Lodges under Dispensation, beg leave to report : That they have examined the Constitution and By-Laws of Vannatta Lodge, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution.

W. H. PAXTON,
C. J. SEARLES,
W. COOPER.

Resolved, That the Constitution and By-Laws of Vannatta Lodge be approved and that a charter be granted to said Lodge.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to and resolution adopted.

The order of the day, being the amendment to the 8th section of the 1st article of the Constitution, by striking out "Natchez" and inserting "the Seat of Government of the State," was called up for consideration.

On motion of Bro. Howry, speakers were allowed to address the Grand Lodge but twice and were restricted in time to ten minutes for each speech.

The question being upon the adoption of the amendment, Bro. Paxton moved to lay the amendment upon the table until the next Grand Annual Communication, and the ayes and noes being called, resulted as follows, the Past Masters present and Past Grand officers waving their right to vote : ayes 69, noes 86.

The question was then taken upon the adoption of the amendment, none but Lodges voting, all others entitled to vote waiving their right, and result was, ayes 63, noes 96 ; so the Grand Lodge refused to adopt the amendment.

Bro. Cooper presented the following report :

The Committee on Lodges under Dispensation beg leave to report, That they have examined the returns of Holmesville Lodge, U. D., and find the returns thereof correct and nothing in their By-Laws conflicting with the ancient landmarks of the Order, but in the transcript of the proceedings it is recorded that at a meeting held on 13th of December, 1845, the Lodge proceeded to elect officers for the ensuing year. Said Lodge having transcended her powers under dispensation, we recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the election of officers by Holmesville Lodge, while under dispensation, is null and void.

2d. That a charter be granted to said Holmesville Lodge.

W. COOPER,
C. J. SEARLES,
W. H. PAXTON,
Committee.

The report was received and agreed to and resolution adopted.

On motion of Bro. Jennings, the report of Committee on Masonry in Louisiana was made the special order for 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 3 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, January 21, 1846, 3 o'clock, P. M.

Bro. Downing, from Committee on Subordinate Lodges, presented the following report :

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report that they have

examined returns to the present Communication of the following Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge, and find the same to be correct: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 16, 17, 18*, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 31, 32, 33, 34*, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39*, 40*, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65.

And find the same to be correct.

No returns have been received from the following named Lodges: Hiram, No. 9, Brooklyn, No. 50.

From the situation of the following Lodges: Lexington Lodge, No. 24, Macon, No. 40, Grand Gulf, No. 41, Thomas Hinds, No. 58, St. Albans, No. 60, and Marion, No. 62, we recommend to the Grand Lodge that their dues be remitted.

As Brooklyn Lodge, No. 50, is in arrears to the Grand Lodge for the past two years, we recommend that they be suspended from working until the requisitions of the Grand Lodge are complied with.

The resolutions of St. Albans Lodge, No. 60, in regard to initiation of two individuals by Monroe Lodge, No. 39, not in the jurisdiction of the former Lodge, we have had under consideration, and as a law of the Grand Lodge is now in force against such a course, we deem it necessary to recommend that said Monroe Lodge, No. 39, be reprimanded by this Grand Lodge for pursuing a course contrary to its laws and regulations.

We recommend that the dues of Quitman Lodge, No. 18, prior to the year 1845, be remitted, on account of the peculiar situation of said Lodge.

We have examined the By-Laws of Grenada Lodge, No. 31, and Pythagorean, No. 48, and find them to be correct.

The Subordinate Lodges (with but few exceptions) have failed to make returns to this Grand Lodge of the names of dimitted brethren in their jurisdiction according to requirements of this Grand Lodge, nor have they, as required by this Grand Lodge, made any return of the number of children (if any) of destitute Masons in their jurisdiction who require education, nor whether any sums of money have been expended by them for educational purposes, and what amount. The dimitted brethren, so far as returns have been made to the Grand Lodge, are delinquent in all the Lodges except Columbus, No. 5, and DeKalb, No. 64, which, from the report, it will be found that the dimitted brethren of those Lodges have paid into the Lodge the sum of twenty-seven dollars.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. N. DOWNING, Chairman.

On motion the report was received and laid upon the table.

Bro. G. D. Mitchell offered the following:

Resolved, That every Subordinate Lodge after altering or amending any of its By-Laws and before any such alteration or amendment can be in force, must have the sanction of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Poor proposed to amend by adding, "or the approval of Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master."

On motion of Bro. Jennings, the resolution and amendment were laid upon the table.

The order of the day being the report of the Committee on Masonry in Louisiana, Bro. Featherston moved to postpone the consideration of the same, but the motion not prevailing, Bro. Jennings, on behalf of the majority of the committee, presented the following report:

The Committee to whom was referred the controversy between the Ancient York Masons of the State of Louisiana, on the one side, and the Scotch and French Masons of said State, on the other, have duly considered the subject, and beg leave to report the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That no Grand Lodge of Scotch and French, or modern Ma-

* Those Lodges marked thus (*) have also made returns for the year 1844.

sonry can assume jurisdiction over any Ancient York Mason or body of such.

2. That it is not consistent with Ancient York Masonry to unite with Scotch and modern Masonry, or either of them, in the formation of a Lodge, Grand or Subordinate.

3. That there is no Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons within the limits of the State of Louisiana.

4. That this Grand Lodge has the power and it is its duty on proper application, to issue dispensations and charters to bodies of Ancient York Masons within the limits of the State of Louisiana, until the constitution of a Grand Lodge within that State.

5. That we entertain the highest opinion of the distinguished body known as the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and are willing to contribute as much as possible, consistent with our obligations, to aid and protect Ancient York Masons, wheresoever dispersed, and to maintain our Order pure and unmingled, to preserve friendly relations with that honorable body.

6. That under no possible circumstances would this Grand Lodge assume jurisdiction over a Scotch or modern Mason or body of such, such assumption being alike inconsistent with their rights and our principles.

DUDLEY S. JENNINGS,
R. N. DOWNING,
J. J. DOTY,

Committee.

On motion of Bro. Benbrook, the report was received and laid upon the table.

Bro. Walter presented the following counter report :

The undersigned, a member of the Committee to whom was referred so much of the address of the M. W. Grand Master, as relates to the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and also the verbal report of the committee appointed to visit that M. W. Body, begs leave to state by way of minority report, That the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana was organized exclusively after the Ancient York Rite, and so remained for a number of years until it accumulated the Scotch and French Rites. Said Grand Lodge is constituted by the free and voluntary meetings of the Subordinate Lodges of the State, represented for life by the Master of each Lodge, who has presided over his Lodge for one year, and temporarily by the Senior and Junior Wardens. According to the information now before the undersigned, there are now in active operation fourteen Lodges working in the Ancient York Rite; four in the Scotch Rite, accumulating the York and Modern Rite, and two in the Modern Rite, accumulating the Scotch and York Rite.

The undersigned would further respectfully submit, that no one of the fourteen Lodges above named, (as the undersigned believes,) has made any official complaint to this Body of any improper or unmaasonic conduct on the part of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

The undersigned is aware of the fact that St. Albans Lodge, No. 28, Louisiana, did on the ninth day of July last, issue a circular addressed to the York Lodges in that State, requesting them to meet in convention and form a Grand Lodge of York Masons. The undersigned has yet to learn that more than one other Lodge of the State of Louisiana, accepted or acted on the proposition of said St. Albans Lodge. The undersigned would further represent that the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana was constituted exclusively in the York Rite; that it is still a York Grand Lodge, accumulating the Scotch and Modern Rite; that it grants charters authorizing Masonic work and labor in the York Rite exclusively, and that it also grants charters authorizing work in either the French or Scotch Rite, but invariably requires, in the latter cases, that the York Rite shall always be communicated upon the candidate for the degrees in the latter Lodges. All the Masons of Louisiana are thus strictly Ancient York, though many of them possess also the French and Scotch Rite. These Rites obtain generally throughout the world, and any reflection upon the organization

of the M. W. Grand Lodge of Louisiana would equally reflect upon the conduct and proceedings of the Supreme Bodies of Masonry in France, Scotland and other nations, where these Rites are peculiarly esteemed. The undersigned would respectfully submit that this Grand Lodge do respectfully and fraternally remonstrate with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana upon its tolerance of the use by its Subordinate Lodges of * * * or their peculiar charts.

The following resolutions are submitted :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge finds nothing in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, which demands a termination of the Masonic relations heretofore existing between them.

2d. That this Grand Lodge would not, (at least under present circumstances) feel itself justified in granting Dispensations or charters to any body of Masons in the State of Louisiana.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. W. WALTER,

On motion of Bro. Wilson, the report was received and laid upon the table.

On motion of Bro. Featherston, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election of Grand Lecturer, which resulted in the election of Bro. Jacob J. Doty, of Richland, Holmes county, to that office.

Bro. Tappan offered the following :

Resolved, That the Grand Master be authorized to draw on the Treasurer for a sum not exceeding \$250, for the purchase of Masonic books for the purpose of commencing a library for this Grand Lodge, to be under the charge of the Grand Treasurer.

The question being taken thereon, the Grand Lodge refused to adopt the resolution.

The Grand Secretary presented the statement of Ripley Lodge, No. 47, in the case of O. Davis.

On motion of Bro. Tappan the statement was laid upon the table.

The following resolution, laid upon the table yesterday, was called up by Bro. Paxton :

Resolved, That so much of the resolution of the Grand Lodge, adopted last year, which makes it the duty of Subordinate Lodges to require payment of dues from dimitted brethren, whose pecuniary condition is such that the payment ought not to be enforced, be repealed.

On motion of Bro. Paxton, the resolution was amended by adding : " and so much of said resolution as requires the return and publication of the names of dimitted brethren who refuse to pay be also repealed."

The resolution, as amended, was adopted.

On motion of Bro. Walter,

Resolved, That it be the duty of the Subordinate Lodges to collect the dues from dimitted Masons.

2d. That Bro. W. H. Paxton be appointed to draw up and have published an address to the dimitted Masons of this State, stating the object for which said dues are demanded ; also the probable number of such dimitted Masons within our Jurisdiction ; also, the probable number of destitute Masonic orphan children within this State, and also, the probable number of such children now being educated by the fraternity of Mississippi.

3d. That Bro. Paxton be authorized to draw upon the Grand Treasurer for the amount necessary to carry out this object.

4th. That Bro. Paxton be requested to forward to each Subordinate Lodge twenty copies of said address.

5th. That the various Lodges in this State be requested at their earliest con-

venience, to forward to Bro. W. H. Paxton, at Vicksburg, the information required in aforesaid resolutions.

Bro. Searles presented the following report :

The Committee on Lodges under dispensation, beg leave to make a supplemental report on the application of Madison Lodge, U. D., for a charter, having neglected some matters in their original report, and submit the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the election of officers by said Lodge in the month of December last, is contrary to the ancient landmarks of the Order, and said election is hereby declared null and void.

2d. That a charter be granted to Madison Lodge, U. D.

3d. That Madison Lodge, U. D., have until the next Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge to pay their dues.

W. COOPER,
C. J. SEARLES,
W. H. PAXTON,
Committee.

The report was received and agreed to and the resolution adopted.

On motion of Bro. Bacon,

Resolved, That St. Albans Lodge, No. 60, is hereby authorized to take jurisdiction of the petition of James Block, praying initiation, now lying before that Lodge.

Bro. Parker Smith presented the following report :

The special committee to whom was referred the propositions submitted to the Grand Lodge by our Rev. Bro. J. Randolph Finley, on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, beg leave to report : That the subject embraced in the proposition, in the estimation of your committee, commends itself to the favorable consideration of all. Education being the theme, it meets with the highest consideration of your committee—with their deepest interest. We hail with emotions of unalloyed pleasure the position which the Masonic fraternity in our sister State of Kentucky has assumed on this interesting subject, and congratulate them upon the wisdom of their choice in the selection of the agent to whom their interests have been confided.

Your committee listened to the address accompanying the exposition made by Bro. Finley with satisfaction and pleasure. We highly appreciate the motive, commend the zeal, and admire the ability exhibited in the discussion of a principle and in the submission of a formal proposition so replete with interest, so worthy of consideration. But while your committee award the Grand Lodge of Kentucky all praise in this enlightened and benevolent enterprise, an enterprise which in its tendency and in its results, will be to ameliorate the austerities of poverty, to arrest the sad calamities of ignorance, vice and degradation, and rear up the orphan to habits of industry and usefulness ; imbue him with the principles of virtue, morality and religion ; and while we receive with so much favor the proposition made by our worthy brother from LaGrange, and regard the question of education as of paramount interest, the practicability of this Grand Lodge acceding to the proposition is dubious to the minds of your committee, and it cannot accomplish for the indigent Masonic children of Mississippi, what the proposition itself contemplates. We have estimated the number of "perpetual scholarships," at seventy, one scholar from each Subordinate Lodge in the State. At a safe calculation the education of these seventy scholars would cost the fraternity of Mississippi not less than \$7000 per year, accumulating in three years to the sum of \$21,000, and by a more nice calculation, to the sum of \$24,460. If but one subject of Masonic charity were within the Jurisdiction of each Subordinate Lodge, your committee would view the subject differently, but when they reflect that but one out of many children under the Jurisdiction of Subordinate Lodges, could derive the advantages of education under the system proposed, and all of the others be

educated out of the remaining resources of the Subordinate Lodges or not be educated at all, and in view of the pecuniary embarrassments of many of said Lodges exhibited to this Grand Annual Communication, we feel constrained by a sense of duty as well to our worthy brother as to those he represents, to candidly state our opinions, that the proposition under consideration is impracticable, and that so far from accomplishing an object so dear to the hearts of the fraternity in Mississippi, as the universal education of their children, would exhaust our treasury and leave the work almost untouched.

We beg leave to submit the following resolution and ask to be discharged :

Resolved, That we deem it inexpedient for the Grand Lodge to take any action upon the propositions of the Rev. Bro. J. Randolph Finley, agent of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, without instructions from the Subordinate Lodges.

P. SMITH, Chairman.

On motion of Bro. Howry, the report was received and laid upon the table.

Bro. Cooper presented the following :

Resolved, That the propositions in writing submitted to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, by Rev. Bro. J. R. Finley, agent of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, be spread upon the minutes of the proceedings of this Grand Annual Communication, and published therewith in order that the same may be laid before the Subordinate Lodges for their consideration.

On motion of Bro. Howry, the resolution was laid upon the table.

Bro. Stearns, from Committee on Foreign Communications, made the following report :

The Committee on Foreign Communications beg leave to report : That they have examined with all practicable care, the documents and correspondence received since the last Grand Annual Communication, comprising amongst other matters, the latest proceedings of the Grand Lodges of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, Kentucky, Virginia, Maryland, Rhode Island, New Jersey, North Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, Georgia, South Carolina, Florida and Alabama.

In the mere perusal of the various and voluminous documents submitted to your Committee, much patient labor has necessarily been required at their hands; and they must be permitted to observe, that, although they have endeavored to discharge to the best of their ability the duties that have devolved upon them, yet, the time allowed for the preparation of their report is so extremely short, that without neglecting what they regard as their paramount duties as delegates, it has been impossible for them to do more than to glance at the subjects presented in these documents; subjects, too, many of which require the most ample leisure for thorough investigation and deliberate reflection. The functions of the Committee on Foreign Communications are of a highly important character, and believing that the plan now pursued in the appointment of the Committee is injudicious and can only tend to lead to crude results, the undersigned strongly recommend that this Committee be appointed at each Grand Annual Communication, with instruction to report at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, and that the Grand Secretary be directed to place in the hands of the Chairman all foreign communications received during the interval. The Chairman, by corresponding with the members of the Committee, would thus be enabled to present, at each Grand Annual Communication, a detailed report, deliberately prepared, of all matters properly falling within the sphere of the action of that Committee.

But as arduous as have been the labors imposed upon your Committee, those labors have been more than amply repaid in the gratifying evidence presented in the reports of our several sister Grand Lodges, of an unusual degree of Masonic prosperity throughout every portion of our widely extended territory.

Where but a short time since, the savage Indian roamed the undisputed lord of the soil, Masonry is now flourishing; numerous Lodges have been estab-

lished, and the sound of the gavel hails us on every hand. Where, ten years ago, the light of Masonry was so obscured by the mists of ignorance, passion and prejudice, that all the Lodges were closed and the craftsmen ceased from their labors, a brighter day has dawned, our brethren have resumed their Masonic implements, and now, where recently all was silent and desolate, the onward progress and prosperous condition of our fraternity is such as must gladden the heart of every true friend of our ancient and honorable Order. The returns of all the Grand Lodges submitted to your Committee, exhibit a large numerical increase, and the manifestations of true Masonic principles, as shown in the establishment of Masonic schools and provisions for objects of Masonic charity, are as numerous as the Lodges whose returns we have inspected.

At our last Grand Annual Communication (Journal, pp. 54-5), this Grand Lodge expressed its opinion in regard to the pre-requisite physical qualifications of candidates for the mysteries of Masonry, declaring that "if the deformity of a candidate for initiation is not such as to prevent him from being instructed in the arts and mysteries of Masonry, his admission will not be an infringement upon the landmarks of the Order." The Grand Lodge of Alabama has expressed the same opinion. The M. W. Grand Master of the State of New York, in his last address to his Grand Lodge, remarks, in reference to this subject, that as "plain a fundamental principle as words can express, has been solemnly and deliberately set at naught, with a mockery of pretended reason," by this Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of New York, it seems, following the lead of its Grand Master, in report of the Committee on Foreign Communications, "boldly and unequivocally tells us we are wrong, and that the position we have taken strikes at the very foundation of the Order."

Your Committee would recommend that these remarks and this action of the Grand Lodge of New York, which modestly assumes to be "the ruling and governing spirit" of Masonic proceedings in the United States, be passed by, in the spirit of brotherly kindness, without complaint, rebuke, remonstrance, or further notice.

Inasmuch as a great number of our sister Grand Lodges require of Masons, coming from points beyond their jurisdiction, the production of Grand Lodge certificates, showing the good standing of the bearers, in the Lodge to which they belong, your Committee trust that this Grand Lodge will take such action as will enable those of our brethren who visit the Lodges of other States, to avail themselves, whilst abroad, of the privileges of our Order.

In the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas, your Committee observe the name of D. D. Crumpler as Grand Sword Bearer of that Grand Lodge. In the report of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the year 1839, p. 28, D. D. Crumpler is named as having been expelled from Astra Lodge, No. 85, in Virginia. We mention this circumstance in order that it may be brought to the notice of our brethren in Texas.

A communication from Bro. George K. Teulon, recently of Texas, dated Calcutta, January 1, 1845, contains an extract from an official communication made to him by the Grand Lodge of Bengal, in the following terms:

"I am desired to express to you, and through you to the fraternity in America whom you represent, in behalf of himself and the craft in Bengal, the satisfaction it has afforded the Off'g Pro. Deputy Grand Master to receive their brotherly greetings; and to assure them of the Masonic feeling with which we reciprocate to their courtesy. It will at all time afford Off'g Pro. Deputy Grand Master pleasure to establish, as proposed by you, a correspondence between the Grand Lodges of America and the District Grand Lodge of Bengal.

(Signed,)

J. J. L. HOFF,

Grand Secretary Grand Lodge of Bengal."

Your Committee recommend that a correspondence be opened by Bro. Grand Secretary with the Grand Lodge of Bengal, through the intervention of the kind offices of Bro. Teulon, and that a copy of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge be forwarded to Bro. Teulon to be presented to that Grand Lodge ac-

accompanied by the assurance that it affords this Grand Lodge much gratification to communicate with our brethren who are so far separated from us by distance, but with whom we are united by the mystic and fraternal tie of Masonry.

In regard to that portion of the address of our M.: W.: Grand Master which was referred to this Committee, the undersigned can only state that they have had but little time to confer or reflect upon the subjects alluded to in the address. It is their opinion, however, that the recommendation from the Grand Lodges of Texas and Louisiana, to appoint resident delegates of this Grand Lodge near them, may prove highly advantageous if accepted; and, as the experiment, in the event of its failure, will not be an expensive one, they recommend the adoption of "the representative system" in regard to all such Grand Lodges as may be disposed to recognize our delegates and appoint delegates near us, and a correspondence on this subject be opened by Bro. Grand Secretary with all the Grand Lodges of the United States, and that the M.: W.: Grand Master and the Grand Secretary be a standing committee for the purpose of suggesting to other Grand Lodges the names of proper persons to represent them near this Grand Lodge. They also recommend the appointment of Bro. Anthony Shelby, of Galveston, as the representative of this Grand Lodge, near the Grand Lodge of Texas.

The following resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, referred to in the address of our M.: W.: Grand Lodge, were also referred to this Committee:

"Resolutions adopted by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland, at the May Communication, 1845:

"1. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge approves of the formation of a General Grand Lodge, and invites the co-operation of the sister Grand Lodges, by the appointment of delegates to meet in convention, for the purpose of reporting to the various Grand Lodges a Constitution for the government of a General Grand Lodge, so soon as the same may be approved by a majority of the Grand Lodges.

"2. *Resolved*, That the several Grand Lodges in the United States that agree to the proposition of this Grand Lodge to form a General Grand Lodge, be requested to send delegates to meet in Convention for that purpose, in the city of Baltimore, on the first Thursday after the third Tuesday in September, 1847, and that the Grand Secretary communicate this resolution to the Grand Masters and Grand Secretaries of all the Grand Lodges in the United States."

With the lesson before us, afforded by the fact that a General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons has long been in existence in America, and that great benefits, unmixed with evil, have resulted to Royal Arch Masonry from its plan of general government, it occurs to your committee that it would be wise, if practicable, to adopt a similar plan for the government of Symbolic Masonry.

The practical operation of such a plan would be most salutary, in the opinion of this committee, in securing uniformity of work throughout the Union, and in preventing conflicts between different Grand Lodges in regard to questions of jurisdiction, which may be frequently expected to arise in the course of the settlement of our now unoccupied territory. A General Grand Lodge, if established, should certainly be a body of limited jurisdiction, and it would probably be best to adopt as its basis, the principle of representation which obtains in the Federal Government of the United States.

There are many other matters, treated of in the documents examined by the undersigned, which deserve the attention of this Grand Lodge, but which, from want of time alone, they are precluded from remarking upon.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. F. STEARNS, Chairman.

On motion of Bro Walter, the report was received and agreed to.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 7 o'clock, P. M.

And at 7 o'clock, P. M., met pursuant to adjournment, at which time the Committee of Lecturers discharged the duty assigned them, and then the Grand Lodge adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

THURSDAY, Jan. 22, 5846, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The same representation as heretofore, with the exception of Bro. Tappan and Bros C. J. Searles and Stewart, who obtained leave of absence.

Bro. Smith, of Panola, introduced the following :

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge having at its last Grand Annual Communication adopted the mode of work recommended by the Baltimore Convention in 1843, and the Masonic Trestle-board having been acknowledged by this Grand Lodge as a text book, and recommended to the Subordinate Lodges under this Jurisdiction, therefore,

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer adopt the mode of work recommended by the Baltimore Convention, and that it is his duty to practice the same in the discharge of his official duties.

On motion, the resolution was laid upon the table.

Bro. Downing called up the report of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges, when the committee reported the following resolutions, which, on his motion, were adopted :

1st. That the dues of the following Lodges, Lexington, 24, Grenada, 31, Mason, 40, Grand Gulf, 41, Thomas Hinds, 58, St. Albans, 60, and Marion, 62, be remitted.

2d. That the dues of Quitman Lodge, No. 18, prior to 1845, be remitted.

3d. That Brooklyn Lodge, No. 50, being in arrears for two years, be suspended from work until the requisitions of the Constitution are complied with.

Bro. Howry offered the following :

Resolved, That the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge be held on the 3d Monday of January, 1847.

On motion of Bro. G. D. Mitchell, "January" was stricken out and "February" inserted. The resolution was then adopted as amended.

Bro. Carpenter presented the following report :

The committee to whom was referred the subject of inquiry as to the right by which Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, holds the jewels formerly belonging to Leaf River Lodge, No. 19, and as to the proper disposition of those jewels, beg leave to say that they have had the subject under consideration, and have agreed upon the following report :

It appears, from all the facts in connection with the subject, that Monroe Lodge, No. 37, is the successor of the old Leaf River Lodge, composed originally entirely of the same members, and that Monroe Lodge, No. 39, have in possession, and ever have had, the records, documents and property, other than the jewels, belonging to Leaf River Lodge. Your committee have come to the conclusion, from the facts of the case as presented to them, that Monroe Lodge are entitled to all the property and effects of Leaf River Lodge. The several facts connected with the subject, your committee deem unnecessary to report, but recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That it is the opinion of the Grand Lodge, that Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, be requested to hand over to Monroe Lodge, No. 39, the jewels of the late Leaf River Lodge, No. 39, upon said Monroe Lodge paying to Olive Branch Lodge the sum of thirty dollars, the amount paid by Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, to the Grand Lodge on account of the dues of Leaf River Lodge.

J. CARPENTER,
WM. H. STEVENS,
S. A. MATTHEWS,
AZEL BACKUS BACON.

On motion of the Chairman, the report was received and agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

Bro. Bacon presented the following report :

The undersigned, one of the Committee on Foreign Communications, respectfully begs leave to report, that, coinciding as he does, in all the recommendations of the committee, one excepted, he begs leave to present his dissent from so much thereof as reasserts the doctrine maintained by this Grand Lodge at the last Grand Communication, that it is not a necessary qualification for a candidate to be whole or perfect in body as well as in mind, in order that he may be received as a brother. The undersigned would respectfully remonstrate against this doctrine as subversive of the ancient landmarks of Masonry.

In the Masonic Library, page 69, treating of the Constitutions of Masonry, it is declared that "every person desiring admission must also be upright in body, not deformed or dismembered at the time of making, but of hale and entire limbs as a man ought to be."

It must be evident that the doctrine asserted by this Grand Lodge at the last Annual Communication, is as completely the reverse of this proposition as it could possibly be made, and the only question is, which shall stand.

The Master of the Lodge admits at his installation, that it is not in the power of any man or body of men to make innovations in the body of Masonry.

If we can alter one of the pre-requisites of a candidate, we may alter another, and we may admit a minor or a woman. The one, in this day of educational progress, may be more capable than in former times, for receiving the mysteries of Masonry. The other, in the days of wholly speculative Masonry, is fully capable of receiving and acting upon the principles of the Institution, and no inconvenience additional to that attending the initiation of deformed candidates would occur.

But the undersigned would hardly believe that this Grand Lodge is now willing to introduce further innovations, yet he would fear that the entering wedge introduced in our last Grand Annual Communication will lead to future changes, not in the Constitutions of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, and he feels it his duty to recommend to the Grand Lodge to retrace the dangerous step already taken.

He has neither time nor opportunity to enlarge upon the subject, but hopes that the simple statement of the rule under the ancient Constitution will suffice.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

AZEL BACKUS BACON.

On motion of Bro. Russell, the report was received, and the consideration of it indefinitely postponed.

Bro. Holt offered the following:

Resolved, That the publication of the names of applicants for initiation, who have been rejected by the respective Lodges acting on the same, is inexpedient, and that the Grand Secretary and the Subordinate Lodges be instructed to discontinue such practice.

The question being upon the adoption of the resolution, it was lost.

Bro. Holt offered the following:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hereafter relinquish all charges against Subordinate Lodges for membership and degrees in the case of ministers of the Gospel.

Bro. Wilson moved to add by way of amendment, "all poor persons," but on motion of Bro. Smith, of Panola, the resolution and amendment were indefinitely postponed.

On motion of Bro. Bacon,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are due and are hereby tendered to the Grand Master, Bro. Quitman, for the faithful, dignified and impartial manner with which he has discharged the various duties devolving upon him during the past Masonic year.

The report of the committee on the propositions of the Agent of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky and the resolution offered by Bro. Cooper, ordering said

propositions to be spread upon the minutes of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge and published therewith, were called up from the table for consideration, when the report was agreed to and the resolution offered by Bro Cooper adopted.

Rev. Bro. J. Randolph Finley, Agent of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, presented a lengthy communication setting forth in detail a plan for the endowment of an educational institution to be conducted under the auspices of that Grand Lodge.

Bro. New presented the following report, which was received and laid upon the table:

A majority of the committee to whom was referred the "propositions" of Bro. Finley, Agent of LaGrange College of Kentucky, having resolved that it would be inexpedient for this Grand Lodge to adopt the plan suggested by our distinguished brother, and with this action they have thought their duties to have ended; but a part of your committee regarding the subject of education with deep interest, believe this not an unfit time to present to the Fraternity of Mississippi, some suggestions for the creation of a permanent School Fund; and therefore beg leave to submit the following minority report:

Your committee beg the indulgence of their brethren, whilst they assert, in their humble opinion, that the Fraternity often spends more, in what may be styled "keeping up the institution," than in doing good; and that society now expects of us a more spirited public manifestation of the utility of the Order, than has been our good fortune yet to achieve. It is now time that we should direct our attention to the future prosperity and usefulness of Masonry, and regard with less solicitude the immediate wants—the individual and sectional interests of the craft. To be fully satisfied of the truth of this proposition, it is only necessary for any one to take a hasty survey of the circumstances surrounding us—the tendencies of the age, and the organization of the institution of Masonry.

The present age is marked by a restless desire of progression; the civil, religious and political worlds are on the march—even the humane, the charitable of all orders are envious of each other, and rivals in the art of doing good; onward moves the great mass of civilized life, whilst the philosopher and the philanthropist alike contend in the improvement of the moral, intellectual, and physical condition of man; and now since the spirit of the Baconian philosophy is awake, utility its grand aim, the progress of society cannot again be stayed till all mankind are enlightened and happy. The time has passed when the lover of the mysterious may be won to our embrace, by pointing him to the venerable columns of our gorgeous temple. Society, the world at large, now demand of us fruit; practical evidences of the utility and value of the Order.

In this state of things Masonry must not, and cannot be idle, and yet fulfil the great destiny which it is her privilege to accomplish. Where are the works of this Grand Lodge, exhibiting to the world the fact, that Masons are the friends, the benefactors of man? The heart of the Mason may rejoice when he casts his eye upon his brethren in other States, lending their best energies to every noble public enterprise; but what have we done, that we can claim any part of the merit won by our brothers abroad? True, we have accomplished some good in secret; much of which we could wish may live after us; but is not "the good that men do, oft interred with their bones?" This is peculiarly applicable to Masonry in Mississippi, which, like some silent stream wending its way through the caverns of the earth, whose crystal drops are only here and there rescued from their hidden depths; so the deeds of Masonry gliding silently upon the undercurrents of life, can alone be appreciated by the initiated, until those streams of life mingle with the ocean of eternity. Let us now open new wells to our hidden fountains, draw forth their refreshing waters and offer to all who thirst.

There is nothing in Masonry to forbid this. To give in secret is our duty, and it is likewise incumbent on us never to boast of our charity; yet this duty cannot interfere with the present necessity of promoting the public spirited enterprises of the day. We must move onward with the age. The spirit of the times has already been felt in the Lodge, and an impetus has been given by the benevolent exertions of the Fraternity, which, if sustained, must greatly advance the usefulness, and do much in elevating the character of the Order. This is as it should be; Masonry surrounded and watched by jealous eyes, cannot pause in the grand march of human improvement, without falling into oblivion and disuse. Our brethren in other States have seen the dangers which threaten our institution; they have watched the progress of events and feel the necessity of making a more public demonstration of the deep interest they have in the prosperity of their fellow-men. These exertions, though limited to a few generous spirits, are felt in their benign influence throughout the Masonic world. As Masons, as philanthropists, we, the Masons of Mississippi, cannot look upon these noble works—works with which, perhaps, the very existence of the Order may be connected, without feeling a desire of aiding their advancement.

Your committee hesitate not, in saying they know of no object legitimately falling within the scope of Masonry, which can bring to the Order such rich harvests of fruit, at the same time effect an equal amount of good to society, as the education of the poor. They would, therefore, earnestly recommend to the Grand Lodge, the propriety of directing its means, and concentrating all its energies to the promotion of this benevolent enterprise.

With the present limited means of this Grand Lodge, it would be inexpedient to attempt the establishment of Common Schools, or the erection of a College under the patronage of this body; but your committee believe measures may be adopted, by which very great amount of good, can be, at once, obtained: great public confidence secured in the Fraternity, and the creation of a School Fund effected, which hereafter may enable us to rival our brethren in other States, in their deeds of charity. All this may be accomplished by the adoption, on the part of this Grand Lodge, of a system of uniform and rigid economy: limiting its expenses to objects of indispensable necessity; concentrating all the surplus funds thus created, and investing them in a manner that shall aid in the establishment of a permanent School Fund.

It may be seen on reference to the Journal of this Grand Lodge published in 1845, that in the year 1844, the number of regular members of Subordinate Lodges in the State, amounted to 1289: and that 943 degrees were conferred during the same period. At the usual charges these items would bring to the Grand Lodge an annual revenue of \$2,232. By the report of our Grand Secretary, we learn that the sum of \$782 91 paid all demands against the Grand Lodge for mileage and per diem of representatives. The rents of rooms attached to the Hall, and the proceeds arising from the granting of dispensations, charters, and other items, will swell the latter amount to at least \$1,000: which sum your committee deem amply sufficient for all necessary purposes of this Grand Lodge.

Now, if the Grand Lodge will confine itself strictly to the duty of raising a School Fund, taking the year referred to as an example, the annual revenue of this body, after satisfying all indispensable demands, will afford every year an overplus of \$1,450 00, which may be set aside, and designated as "the permanent School Fund."

That this fund may not be idle, but in order that we may at once realize from its proper employment, some benefit, at the same time prepare for future usefulness, your committee would recommend that the Grand Master, the Grand Secretary, and the Grand Treasurer be authorized annually to invest the whole amount of the surplus revenue in such manner as they may deem best; the interest upon which they may lay out in the purchase of Scholarships in the LaGrange College of Kentucky, a Masonic institution under the patronage of the Grand Lodge of that State.

A Scholarship entitles the holder to send one student for five years, the cost of which is \$50. At 8 per cent. the interest upon the first year's surplus would be more than sufficient for the purchase of two Scholarships, and by the continuance of these means, with the increase of this fund the second year, five Scholarships could be procured, and thus keeping up this system for ten years, we would at the end of that time have obtained 124 Scholarships, whilst the principal set aside annually, would amount to the sum of \$14,540 00: which sum might then be invested in buildings, and the proper steps taken for the establishment of a Masonic College in Mississippi.

The Scholarships procured by the above means, may be gratuitously distributed among the Subordinate Lodges, and the tax now imposed on dimitted brethren would be more than sufficient to defray all necessary expenses of students while at College. Suppose there are but five hundred brethren in the State, not in connection with any Lodge, a number greatly below the actual—this item would bring to the Subordinate Lodges the sum of \$3,000 annually; which for the first five years, would more than maintain all the scholars that may be at College; and it is not improbable that during this period, a large amount of this fund might be obtained in aid of "the permanent School Fund."

It may be remarked, by some, that the permanent fund here contemplated, is insufficient for the purposes held in view. But let the corner stone be once laid by this Grand Lodge, then the brethren throughout the State, seeing in this an earnest of design on the part of this body, would not hesitate to assist in the completion of the work. To say nothing of individual efforts—of donations and of bequests, the Lodges would promptly respond to a call of this body in behalf of an object of such manifest utility to the Fraternity and the public. They could without any inconvenience bear an additional tax of one dollar on every regular member returned.

To recapitulate, supposing this system is adopted for the next ten years, and the measures suggested are concurred in by the Lodges of the State, then there would accrue to the permanent School Fund the following sums, viz:

Surplus funds of the Grand Lodge.....	\$14,450 00
From dimitted brethren, necessary for support of indigent youth, say \$1,000 per annum, making in all.....	10,000 00
From regular members, in addition to present dues, \$1289, making in all.....	12,890 00
Total.....	\$37,344 00

Your Committee have their sympathies deeply enlisted in behalf of this noble work of their brethren of Kentucky, and they anticipate to the Order at large, great good from their charitable labors; and while anxious that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi should share in the gratification and benefits growing out of this wise and liberal policy, yet they cannot contemplate with complacency, the idea of this body abandoning all efforts in adopting some measures for the establishment of a Masonic College in our own State.

By the adoption of measures herein recommended, your Committee believe very great good may be accomplished, the beneficial effects of which, both at home and abroad, may at once be felt; while, at the same time, the foundation may be laid for the creation of a fund which, in the course of a few years, will be sufficient for the endowment of an institution of learning that shall prove, in our day, not only creditable to Masonry and humanity, but to which science and virtue, in after times, may point, with exulting pride, as a monument of the liberality and wisdom of the Order.

In accordance with these sentiments, and for the object of creating a permanent fund for educational purposes, and moreover, that we may assist our brethren of Kentucky in their laudable undertaking, your Committee beg leave to submit the following resolutions.

C. B. NEW.

The resolutions accompanying the report refer to various methods of curtail-

ing the expenses of the Grand Lodge, the principal of which was that all objects of charity should be referred to Subordinate Lodges, and that all expenses of called sessions of the Grand Lodge should be paid by Subordinate Lodges in the vicinity of the place where the Grand Communication may be held—the remainder of the resolutions provides for the creation of the permanent fund, and its manner of investment as pointed out in the report.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. G. D. Mitchell, which was laid upon the table, was called up:

Resolved, That every Subordinate Lodge, after altering or amending any of its By-Laws, and *before any such alteration or amendment can be in force*, must have the sanction of the Grand Lodge.

The question being upon the adoption of the resolution, it was lost.

Bro. Jennings called up the reports upon Masonry in Louisiana for consideration, when Bro. Wilson presented a second minority report, as follows:

The undersigned, one of the Select Committee appointed to take into consideration the matter of the verbal reports of the delegates to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and also the complaints of a body of Ancient York Masons in that State, and differing from the other members of the committee, begs leave to report separately, to the consideration of this Grand Lodge, the following resolution. as embodying his views upon the subject:

1 *Resolved*, That in view of the relations that have subsisted and do now exist, between this Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and the recognition by this Grand Lodge of that as a Grand Masonic Body, it is not deemed proper or expedient at this time, to grant charters or dispensations to any body of Masons, residing within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

2. That the practice of conferring degrees by the Grand Officers of the said (Grand Lodge, and the Subordinate Lodges under its jurisdiction, by means of ——— charts used in said Lodge, is contrary to a correct and indispensable usage and custom of Masonry, and directly subversive of the distinguishing character of our Order, and if persisted in, will necessarily eventuate in a dissolution of the friendly Masonic relations subsisting between us.

3. That, in the opinion of this Lodge, the mingling of different rites as practiced under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, ought, properly, to be abandoned.

4. That this Grand Lodge do most affectionately and fraternally urge upon the consideration of our sister Grand Lodge of Louisiana, that by conciliation and compromise, they reconcile the difficulties which have arisen and now exists between said Grand Lodge and some brethren Ancient York Masons in that State.

5. That the Grand Master enter into a correspondence with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, or with its officers expressing to them the views of this Grand Lodge in regard to the grievances complained of and call their immediate attention and consideration to the subject.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE A. WILSON.

On motion, the report was received, and on motion of Bro. Wilson, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the various reports and documents upon the subject of Masonry in Louisiana in possession of this Grand Lodge, be referred to the Grand Master, who is requested to enter into correspondence with the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, expressing to them the views of this Grand Lodge, in regard to the grievances complained of, and urge the correction of them to the immediate attention and consideration of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

On motion of Bro. G. D. Mitchell,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to have published three hundred and fifty copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge and send two copies to each Subordinate Lodge and one to each delegate.

Bro. Gray offered the following :

Resolved, That a committee be appointed, whose duty it shall be to examine the standard Masonic works and from them collect and embody all the ancient usages and customs that are recognized to comprise the constitution of Masonry, and report the same to the next Grand Annual Communication, to the end that so much thereof as may be adopted by this Grand Lodge, together with the present constitution and regulations passed by this Grand Lodge and are now in force, may be published in a book to be bound, and three copies of the same be furnished to each Subordinate Lodge.

Bro. Jennings moved its reference to a select committee of one, which motion was lost.

The question was then taken on the adoption of the resolution, and was lost.

Bro. Wilson offered the following :

Resolved, That the names of the members of the Subordinate Lodges be left out of the printed proceedings of this Grand Lodge, except the officers of said Lodge, and that the numbers only of M. M., F. C. and E. A., be inserted in said publication.

On question taken, the resolution was lost.

Bro. Gray offered the following resolution, which, on his motion, was laid upon the table until next Grand Annual Communication, to-wit :

Resolved, That Lodges working Under Dispensation, not being regularly constituted, are not entitled by the constitution of Ancient Masonry to representation in the Grand Lodge, and that the fees paid by said Lodges for their dispensation and charters be considered ample compensation to this Grand Lodge for the privileges said Lodges have enjoyed, and that they are, therefore, not required to pay dues or contributions to this Grand Lodge.

Bro. Gray offered the following :

Resolved, That the following resolution, passed by this Grand Lodge during the Communication of 1839, and found on page 10 of said proceedings, to-wit :

Resolved, That the Subordinate Lodges, working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, shall so amend their By-Laws and adapt their work, that no business shall be transacted in a Lodge of Entered Apprentices or Fellow Crafts except the conferring of degrees, and that no Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft be admitted to membership," be and the same is hereby repealed.

On motion, the resolution offered by Bro. Gray was rejected.

Bro. Cooper presented the following report :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals report, that they have examined the memorial and resolutions from Gallatin Lodge, No. 25, in relation to the expulsion of Bryant W. Hatch, formerly a member of said Lodge. They find that the said Lodge has unanimously adopted resolutions requesting the Grand Lodge to reinstate the expelled brother, (being satisfied that the charges were unfounded and the proceedings illegal,) and there is a memorial from many members of the Lodge, setting forth the same facts. Your Committee would, therefore, report the following resolution :

Resolved, That Bryant W. Hatch, (agreeably to the desire and request of Gallatin Lodge, No. 25,) be reinstated to the benefits of Masonry.

WM. COOPER,
CHAS. J. SEARLES,
ELIAS FISHER,
Committee.

The report, on motion, was received and agreed to, and resolution adopted.

On motion of Bro. Wilson, the Select Committee upon the Lottery was discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

Bro. Walter offered the following:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do respectfully request the Legislature of this State to repeal the act heretofore passed by it, authorizing the drawing of the Grand Lodge Lottery, and that the Secretary of this body transmit a copy of this resolution to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

On motion, the resolution was referred to a committee of three. Whereupon the chair appointed Bros. Walter, Mellen and Benbrook said committee.

Bro. Poor offered the following:

Resolved, That hereafter no application for the remission of the dues of a Subordinate Lodge to this Grand Lodge will be considered.

The question being upon the adoption of the resolution, it was lost.

Bro. Cooper presented the following report:

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals beg leave to report, that in the case of Simeon R. Adams, submitted to them, they find nothing requiring the action of this Grand Lodge.

The petition of John Jones and J. Callahan have also been considered, but there not being sufficient information before the committee to enable them to form any opinion in relation thereto, they cannot recommend any action thereon.

W. COOPER,
ELIAS FISHER,
CHAS. J. SEARLES,
Committee.

On motion the report was received.

On motion of Bro. Jennings, the Grand Lodge refused to concur in so much of the report as relates to the case of S. R. Adams, but the remainder of the report was agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Dawson,

Resolved, That the decision of Sterling Lodge, No. 54, expelling S. R. Adams from the benefits of Masonry, be reversed, and that a new trial be granted him before Macon Lodge, No. 40, which Lodge is hereby authorized to take jurisdiction of the case, and to whom the whole subject is referred.

Bro. Russell offered the following:

WHEREAS, Our ancient brethren rested on the Sabbath,

Resolved, That in all Lodges under our Jurisdiction the brethren be reminded of their duty, to regard this ancient landmark, and abstain from all ordinary Masonic work on any part of that day of sacred rest.

On motion of Bro. Lacoste, the resolution was laid upon the table and made the order of the day for five o'clock.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, Jan'y 22, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion of Bro. Watts,

Resolved, That Lafayette Lodge No. 53, and Wilson Lodge, U. D., have until the first day of June next to pay their dues to the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Paxton presented the following report :

The Committee on Lodges under Dispensation beg leave to report, that they have examined the Constitution and By-Laws of Louisville Lodge and find the same correct with the exception mentioned in the subjoined resolution.

Resolved, That the third section of article second of the Constitution of Louisville Lodge be so amended by striking out the word "resignation," and that the Constitution so amended, and the By-Laws of said Lodge be approved.

2d. That a charter be granted to Louisville Lodge as prayed for.

Bro. Benbrook presented the following report :

The Committee on Accounts beg leave to report, that they have examined the Grand Treasurer's and the Grand Secretary's accounts, and find them correct. They have also audited and recommended for allowance the following accounts: T. A. S. Doniphan's for \$5; H. Polkinghorn, Jr., for \$17; T. H. Quarterman, for \$35; C. Reynolds, \$17 50; Walker & Collins for \$177; James Hardie for \$736.

Which is respectfully submitted.

W. COOPER,
D. G. BENBROOK,
J. J. DOTY,
Committee.

On motion the report was received and agreed to, and the accounts reported ordered to be paid.

On motion of Bro. Benbrook,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to credit Sterling Lodge, No. 54, with \$37 20, the amount of Bro. McDougall's mileage and per diem as a representative of that Lodge in 1843.

On motion of Bro. Walter,

Resolved, That Salem Lodge, No. 45, be credited with the sum of three dollars for that amount charged by mistake against itself, and that the further time of three months be allowed said Lodge to pay the balance of its dues for this year, amounting to six dollars.

On motion of Bro. Paxton,

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge authorize the Grand Secretary to issue to Louisville Lodge a charter, on the payment of his fee only, and that the fee of the Grand Lodge be remitted.

On motion of Bro. Paxton,

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed for the purpose of reporting to the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, some means of raising a permanent fund for the purposes of education.

2d. That said committee be also authorized to report fully, some means by which the Grand and Subordinate Lodges in this State may be better enabled to advance the cause of education with permanency and success.

The Chair appointed as said committee, Bros. W. H. Paxton, J. D. Mitchell, Walter, Wilson and Stearns.

On motion of Bro. Lacoste,

Resolved, That the several Subordinate Lodges under this Jurisdiction be required to transmit with their annual returns to the next Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, a full and complete copy of their respective By-Laws in force at the date of such returns,

2d. That Bro. Grand Secretary publish with the proceedings of this Communication, the forms of a Master Mason's Diploma and Dimit Certificate, to be

used by the Subordinate Lodges under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

On motion of the Grand Senior Warden,

Resolved, That hereafter there shall be an additional standing committee in the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, known and designated as "The Committee on Lodges under Dispensation."

Bro. Johnson offered the following :

Resolved, That the money paid into the Treasury of this Grand Lodge by representatives of Lodges under Dispensation at this Grand Annual Communication as dues, be refunded.

On motion, the resolution was laid upon the table.

Bro. Walker presented the Grand Steward and Tyler's account, amounting to \$49 75, which, on his motion, was allowed and ordered to be paid.

Bro. Walter presented his credentials as the representative of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, near this Grand Lodge, which, on motion of Bro. Cooper, were received.

On motion of Bro. Walter,

Resolved, That the Grand Master be authorized to select some suitable person to represent this Grand Lodge at the Triennial Convention to meet at Winchester, Virginia, in May, 1846, should the Grand Master deem it probable that said Convention will be held.

Bro. Cooper presented the following resolution from the Committee on Complaints and Appeals :

Resolved, That the expulsion of Isaac N. Kent, by Raymond Lodge, No. 21, be and the same is hereby reversed, and that said Kent is hereby restored to all the benefits of Masonry.

Bro. Paxton offered the following :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge consider the contract with C. F. Hatcher, as terminated on the third Monday in February, 1847.

But on motion of Bro. Lacoste, the resolution was amended by striking out all after the word "Resolved," and inserting: "That the whole matter relating to the subject of the Grand Lodge Lottery, and to the contract of this Grand Lodge with C. F. Hatcher, in that behalf, be referred to the Grand Master for such action on his part, in the recess of this Body, as may to him appear expedient, and that he report such action to the next Grand Annual Communication."

Bro. Gray offered the following :

Resolved, That Subordinate Lodges under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge have the power of reversing any sentence of suspension or expulsion passed by said Lodge.

On motion, said resolution was indefinitely postponed.

When the Grand Lodge, on motion, adjourned *sine die*, and was closed in Form.

WM. P. MELLEEN, Grand Secretary.

TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION,

1847.

NATCHEZ, February 15, 1847.

PRESENT:

R. W. BENJ. S. TAPPAN.....	Deputy Grand Master.
S. H. JOHNSON.....	Grand Senior Warden.
C J. SEARLES.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
REV. D. L. RUSSELL.....	Grand Chaplain.
CHAS. A. LACOSTE.....	Grand Treasurer.
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
WM. COOPER.....	Grand Senior Deacon <i>p. t.</i>
THOMAS PALMER.....	Grand Junior Deacon. <i>p. t.</i>
JOHN A. HUNSTABLE.....	G. Steward and Tyler <i>p. t.</i>

Past Grand Officers—William Cooper, P. D. G. M.; E. Craig, P. G. S. B ;
T. C. Finney, P. G. Marshall ; A. B. Macon, P. G. O.; J. E. Watts, P. G. P.

Past Masters of Subordinate Lodges—C. J. Searles, J. J. Birdsong, Samuel
W. Howze, B. F. Reynolds, W. H. Curtis, J. J. Doty.

Representatives of Subordinate Lodges:

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—Wm. P. Mellen.
Andrew Jackson, No. 2—T. C. Finney.
Columbus, No. 5—Samuel B. Malone.
Clinton, No. 16—George G. Banks.
Leake, No. 17—E. G. McKee.
Quitman, No. 18—J. B. Catching.
Raymond, No. 21—W. Rossman.
Pearl No. 23—Thomas Palmer and A. Hutchinson.
Lexington, No. 24—Ira S. Mitchell and W. A. McMillen.
Gallatin, No. 25—S. H. Johnson and M. Cook.
Vicksburg, No. 26—C. J. Searles and James Trowbridge.
Canton, No. 28—Edmund R. Anderson.
Aberdeen, No. 32—J. W. Speight.
Carrollton, No. 36—William P. Bole.
Liberty, No. 37—E. M. Davis and F. G. Cowdin.
Ancient York, No. 38—W. H. Wilder.
Yazoo, No. 42—L. Wyman and Thomas J. Wilson.
Shady Grove, No. 43—William Strahan.
Salem, No. 45—George A. Martin.
Benjamin Franklin, No. 46—J. Marshall.
Pythagorean, No. 48—William H. Curtis.
Hernando, No. 51—James S. Oliver.

Locke, No. 52—C. A. Lacoste.
 Lafayette, No. 53—Charles W. Moody.
 Sterling, No. 54—James A. Chapman.
 Harrison, No. 57—James E. Watts.
 Tappan, No. 59—J. J. Birdsong.
 St. Albans, No. 60—A. B. Bacon.
 Eureka, No. 61—William N. Bonner.
 Marion, No. 62—C. McLane.
 DeKalb, No. 64—William Hyde.
 Silas Brown, No. 65—Charles Scott and D. N. Barrows.
 Vannatta, No. 68—Benjamin F. Reynolds.
 Holmesville, No. 69—S. A. Mathews.
 Evening Star, No. 70—L. D. Forbes.
 Wilson, No. 72—Samuel W. Howze.
 Madison, No. 73—O. D. Kearney.
 Camden, No. 74—Joseph B. Smith.
 Louisville, No. 75—James B. McLelland.
 Ebenezer, U. D.—John M. Ruffin.
 Evergreen, U. D.—J. C. McAlpine.
 Westville, U. D.—M. A. Banks.
 Eastern Star, U. D.—William A. Stone.
 Scott, U. D.—M. P. Holman and S. R. Adams.
 Pontotoc, U. D.—James W. Drake.
 Oakland, U. D.—William H. Coker.
 Coffeeville, U. D.—Thomas B. Carroll.

Visitor—Rev. J. Randolph Finley, Grand Chaplain and Agent of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and President of Funk Seminary and Masonic College of Kentucky.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Due Form in the Third Degree.

Prayer by the Rev. D. L. Russell, Grand Chaplain.

The R.: W.: Deputy Grand Master addressed the Grand Lodge upon the various subjects which would require their attention; and upon motion of Bro. Searles, the address was ordered to be spread upon the minutes, but the Deputy Grand Master declined writing it out.

The Deputy Grand Master then appointed the following Standing Committees:

On Foreign Communications—Bros. Searles, Hutchinson, Mitchell of Lexington, Lacoste, Chapman, Reynolds, Banks of Westville, Rossman, Johnson, Anderson, Wilder, Birdsong, Watts, Finney and McKee.

On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. Hyde, Speight, Bole, Davis, Wyman, Strahan, Barrows and Adams.

On Subordinate Lodges—Bros. Palmer, Martin, Banks of Clinton, Cook, Cowdin, Curtis, Moody, Oliver, Marshall, Birdsong and Bonner.

On Unfinished Business—Bros. Wilson, Martin, Barrows and Scott.

On Accounts—Bros. Kearney, Smith and McLelland.

On Lodges Under Dispensation—Bros. Bacon, McLane, Mathews, Forbes, Catching and Howze.

On motion of Bro. Mitchell, of Lexington,

Resolved, That Bro. Charles Scott be requested to address the Grand Lodge at its re-assemblage, this evening, at — o'clock, on the moral principles and tendencies of Freemasonry.

On motion of Bro. Barrows, the blank was filled with "7."

The Grand Secretary made the following annual report, and presented his account current:

To the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The undersigned, the Grand Secretary, has the honor to report that, by the

directions of the Grand Lodge, given at the last Grand Annual Communication, charters were issued to the following named Lodges, which had previously wrought under dispensations, to-wit:

Panola, No. 66; Houston, No. 67; Vannatta, No. 68; Holmesville, No. 69; Evening Star, No. 70; Joseph Warren, No. 71; Wilson, No. 72; Madison, No. 73; Camden, No. 74; Louisville, No. 75.

By the same authority, dispensations have been issued to erect Lodges as follows, to-wit:

Ebenezer Lodge, South DeSoto, DeSoto county, W. G. Wynn, W. M.

Evergreen, Decatur, Newton county, Elijah Dansby, W. M.

Westville, Westville, Simpson county, E. N. Talley, W. M.

By order of the Grand Master, dispensations have been issued as follows:

Eastern Star Lodge, Monticello, Lawrence county, T. Y. Grinstead, W. M.

Scott, Hillsboro, Scott county, Isaac Taylor, W. M.

Pontotoc, Pontotoc, Pontotoc county, John F. Wray, W. M.

By order of the Deputy Grand Master, the Grand Master being absent, as follows:

Oakland, Oakland, Yalobusha county, Wm. H. Cocke, W. M.

First Regiment, 1st Regiment, Army in Mexico, R. N. Downing, W. M.

Coffeeville, Coffeeville, Yalobusha county, Thos. B. Carroll, W. M.

DeWitt Clinton, Shongalo, Carroll county, Wm. H. Ellington, W. M.

Black Hawk, Black Hawk, Carroll county, L. D. Holloman, W. M.

Owing to peculiar circumstances which have lessened the demand for a period, for rooms of the character of those in the basement story of the Grand Masonic Hall, the undersigned has had no offer for permanent tenants, until quite recently, and then at reduced prices notwithstanding they have been advertised for rent and a constant exertion made to procure occupants.

The gross income for the past year was.....	\$2,773 08
The mileage and per diem amounts to about.....	1,200 00

Leaving for debts and contingent expenses, about.....	\$1,573 08
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All the debts are paid, and all the contingent expenses with the exception of about \$200.

The income for the present year is estimated at.....	\$3,000 00
The mileage, per diem and contingencies.....	2,000 00

Surplus.....	\$1,000 00
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Part of which, say from \$200 to \$300, will come in at different periods during the year.

Messrs. C. F. Hatcher & Co., "managers of Grand Lodge Lottery," have made returns to February 4th, 1847:

Of sales, in classes 13 to 25, inclusive, amounting to.	\$10,325 39
Add previous sales.....	19,769 50

\$30,094 89

Amount of sales authorized per contract.....	\$50,000 00
Sales to finish contract.....	19,905 11

The undersigned presents herewith charges preferred by Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, against Bro. Jno. F. Wray, who was appointed by dispensation Master of Pontotoc Lodge. Bro. Wray was suspended from office by the Deputy Grand Master, who directed me to furnish Bro. Wray with a copy of the charges against him and cite him to appear before the Grand Lodge, this day, to answer said charges. In obedience to the order, I transmitted a copy of the charges, and a citation in due form, under cover to the address of Bro. A. J. Edmondson, Senior Warden of said Lodge, and requested him to serve them upon Bro. Wray, or cause the same to be done and make due return of the fact.

The undersigned, presents the memorial of Jere. Cooper, praying a rehearing of the appeal from Carrollon Lodge, which was before the Grand Lodge last year, and the appeals of H. J. Harris, from Vannatta Lodge, No. 68; Benj. C. Oppelt, from DeKalb, Lodge, No. 64; H. L. Mitchell, from Salem Lodge No. 45; Richard Northcross, from Salem Lodge, No. 45; John H. Ogborne, from Wilson Lodge, No. 72; John W. Mann, from Marion Lodge, No. 62.

And the petitions for new Lodges at Okalona, Kosciusko and Starkville.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. P. MELLE, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary's account current showed the receipts for the year to have been \$2773.09.

On motion of Bro. Bacon, the account was referred to the Committee on Accounts; and so much of the report as related to dispensations, to the Committee on Lodges under Dispensation; and so much as related to appeals, to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

The Grand Treasurer presented his account current, showing his receipts to have been for the year, \$2372 17. The discrepancy between his account and that of the Grand Secretary being for the fees of the Grand Secretary and expenses of his office, \$377 80. The expenditures were \$231 00. Balance on hand, \$41 17.

The account was referred to the Committee on Accounts.

Bro. Barrows offered the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will proceed to the election of its officers this afternoon at 3 o'clock.

But accepted the amendment of Bro. Mitchell, of Lexington, to strike out 3 o'clock this afternoon, and insert 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

Then, on motion of Bro. Bacon, 9 o'clock, A. M. was stricken out, and 3 o'clock, P. M., inserted.

The resolution as amended, was adopted.

On motion of Bro. Hutchinson,

Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to exhibit, or cause to be exhibited, the work and lectures of the first three degrees of Ancient Masonry; and to this end, that they may be allowed to call on any brother or brethren to assist in that duty.

The Chair appointed Bros. Doty, Hyde, Hutchinson and Lacoste the committee.

Bro. Speight offered the following:

Resolved, That the various Subordinate Lodges of this State be exempt from payment of dues to the Grand Lodge for such individual members of their respective Lodges, as may have volunteered in the Mexican war.

Which, on his motion, was adopted.

On motion of Bro. Russell,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare and report a suitable minute in reference to our Grand Master, Gen. John A. Quitman, now in the service of his country in Mexico,

Bros. Russell, Scott and Johnson were appointed the committee.

On motion of Bro. Finney,

Resolved, That Bro J. R. Finley, Agent of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, be invited to address the Grand Lodge on the subject of his mission, to-morrow morning, at half-past 9 o'clock.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

MONDAY, 15th February, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Grand and Past Grand Officers, Past Masters and Representatives the same as in the morning, with the addition of the following named :

Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2—C. S. Wadsworth.

Leake, No. 17—C. M. Henderson.

Vicksburg, No. 26—W. H. Paxton.

Holly Springs, No. 25—Thomas Lomax.

Ripley, No. 47—Charles P. Miller.

Locke, No. 52—A. H. Kendrick.

Chulahoma, No. 55—J. H. Alexander.

Mississippi, No. 56—Charles Tullis.

Thomas Hinds, No. 58—J. H. Duncan and H. M. Youngblood.

Asylum, No. 63—Frederick Conrad.

Madison, No. 73—C. R. Crawford.

Bros. Paxton and Crawford were placed on the Committee on Foreign Communications.

Bros. Lomax, Miller and Wadsworth on the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

Bros. Alexander, Duncan and Youngblood on the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

And Bro. Conrad on the Committee on Unfinished Business.

Bro. Malone offered the following amendment to the Constitution :

Resolved, That the 8th section of the 1st article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge be amended by striking out "City of Natchez," and inserting "Seat of Government."

On motion of Bro. Barrows, the amendment was laid upon the table, and made the order of the day to-morrow, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Bro. Rossman presented the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted :

WHEREAS, I. N. Kent was expelled from Raymond Lodge, No. 21, and the sentence of expulsion was reversed at the last Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge, and said Kent restored to all the benefits of Masonry ; and

WHEREAS, said Kent applied to Raymond Lodge, No. 21, to be reinstated to membership, which was refused ; and

WHEREAS, There was no appeal prosecuted by said Kent from the decision of said Lodge, and nothing but an exparte statement of the Master of a Lodge not under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and a certificate from some of the members of Raymond Lodge, No. 21 ; and

WHEREAS, The said Lodge feels deeply aggrieved at the restoration of said Kent to the benefits of Masonry, therefore,

Resolved, That the papers in relation to the expulsion of I. N. Kent from Raymond Lodge, No. 21, be taken from the files and referred to a select committee of three.

Bros. Rossman, Birdsong and Searles were appointed the committee.

Bro. Cowdin presented a petition from Liberty Lodge, No. 37, which, on his motion, was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Bacon presented the following :

Resolved, That it is not consistent with the principles of Masonry for Lodges working under this Grand Lodge to confer degrees on persons residing under the jurisdiction of other Grand Lodges.

Which, on motion, was laid upon the table.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 7 o'clock, P. M.

MONDAY, 15th January, 5847, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Present as before, with the addition of

Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2—D. G. Benbrook.

Macon, No. 40—E. W. Ferris.

Yazoo, No. 42—D. A. James.

Thomas Hinds, No. 58—William B. Johnson.

Bro. Kearney, from the Committee on Accounts, made the following report, which was received and agreed to, and the resolution adopted:

The Committee on Accounts beg leave to report that they have examined the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's accounts, and find them correct. They have also audited, and recommend for allowance, an account of T. A. S. Doniphan, for printing circulars, \$5. The committee recommend the following resolution for adoption:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure an additional case, and a suitable desk for his office.

Bro. Scott, in accordance with the resolution of the Grand Lodge, delivered an oration, when, on motion of Bro. Searles, it was

Resolved, That the cordial and hearty thanks of the members of the Grand Lodge be, and are hereby tendered to our worthy Bro. Charles Scott for the able, instructive, eloquent and impressive address delivered by him.

Bro. Russell, from a select committee, presented the following report:

The committee to prepare a minute in reference to our Grand Master, John A. Quitman, now engaged in the service of his country in Mexico, beg leave to report the following:

Resolved, That while we deeply regret the absence of one so fully possessed of the respect and esteem of this Grand Lodge, and so admirably qualified to preside in our Councils, our regrets are tempered by the recollection that he who was first in our assembly of peace, has proven himself worthy to stand in the first rank of those who, in their country's cause, have nobly displayed the firmness of the Mason. The eye of each brother follows him, the heart of each is with him, the united prayer of us all will continue to be that the God of Armies may protect and bless him on the tented field and amid the storm of battle; and in due time restore him, crowned with honor, to that family circle in which he has so happily illustrated all the virtues of the husband and the father, that each member has learned to reflect the image of their distinguished head.

2d. That a committee of five, (including the Deputy Grand Master,) be appointed to bear this feeble tribute of regard to the family of Bro. Quitman, and assure them of the intense interest of the fraternity in his and their well-being.

3d. That the Grand Secretary be requested to communicate a copy of these resolutions to Bro. Quitman in Mexico.

D. L. RUSSELL,
S. H. JOHNSON.

The report was unanimously received and agreed to, and the resolutions adopted.

The Committee consists of the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden, Grand Chaplain, P. M. Searles and Bro. Scott.

Most Rev. Bro. Russell presented an extract from the minutes of the proceedings of Eureka Lodge, No. 61, in relation to the foundation of a Masonic school, or college, at Richland, Holmes county, by that Lodge; but before any action was had thereon, the Grand Lodge adjourned till nine o'clock, A. M., tomorrow.

TUESDAY, February 16, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Present as before, with Robert Stewart, Past Grand Master, and representatives from :

Washington, No. 3—Frederick J. Poor.

Grand Gulf, No. 43—J. A. Frydinger and C. D. Hamilton.

Lafayette, No. 53—James Lane.

Pikeville, U. D.—R. G. Steele.

Prayer by the Most Rev. Grand Chaplain.

Bro. Hyde, from the Committee on Complaints and Appeals, made the following report :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals beg leave to report : That they have examined the proceedings of Lafayette Lodge, No. 53, against Bro. John H. Ogburn, and after due and patient consideration, recommend to your honorable body that Bro. Ogburn be restored to all the rights, privileges and immunities of Masonry. The committee are unable to perceive in the long catalogue of charges sent up by Lafayette Lodge, the first charge, or any part of a charge, or specification, that comes within the purview of the Constitutional law governing the Order. The committee, therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That John H. Ogburn be and he is hereby reinvested with all the rights, privileges and immunities of Free Masonry.

W. HYDE, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to, and Bro. Ogburn admitted to the Grand Lodge as a visitor.

The Grand Lecturer made the following report :

To the M. W. Grand Master of Ancient York Masons in the State of Mississippi :

The undersigned, Grand Lecturer for the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of this State, reports that he has had the honor during the past year, to visit and exemplify his mode of work and lecturing before most of the Lodges Subordinate to this Jurisdiction.

Discrepancies are found to exist, arising from the mingling of the systems as taught by Bros. Wilkins Tannehill and J. L. Cross ; both of which, as well as the Conventional work, are sanctioned by this Grand Lodge. On the whole, however, I see not much to complain of. It is believed that the returns to the present Grand Annual Communication will show accessions to our numbers beyond any exhibit heretofore made, and much pleasure is felt in the assurance that the moral bearing of the brethren is a subject engrossing more general attention than was supposed. Wherever I have visited I have witnessed a general tendency to this most desirable end.

A Trestle-board, the result of Bros. Moore and Carnegie's labor, as committeemen of the Baltimore Convention, raised for that purpose, has been my monitor, adapting thereto Bro. J. L. Cross' work and lectures, believing the monitor mentioned to point significantly enough to the main improvements contemplated by the Convention of 1843. These I adopted, so far as I understood them, in the light of plain common sense. I have had but slight opportunity of consulting those, in my esteem, best informed in the Conventional mode.

I would not be understood as condemning the work of the Convention, but as only venturing a belief that it is not generally very well understood. If thoroughly understood, I feel sure that no essential difference (not tending to embellish) will be seen between that and the mode taught Bro. Cross by T. S. Webb, the pupil of Preston, England's brightest brother.

I have been almost universally well received. The many attentions of the

brethren will be ever cherished with feelings of gratitude; and, while I would not award the palm to any particular portion, I must be allowed to mention my agreeable surprise at the zeal manifested in the eastern part of the State. Here I had expected to find an apathy not congenial with Masonic prosperity, but instead, I have yet to see that the brethren in this section are less enlightened and enthusiastically warm upon subjects engrossing the attention of our Order, than those of more favored portions of the State.

As a part of this report, I submit papers marked "Grenada, No. 1" and "2," believing that this Grand Lodge should define the relative duty of Subordinate Lodges thereto. The resolutions contained in No. 1, relating to myself, are complimentary and kind beyond what any vanity I have could have conceived of; and for which I, as a man, have the right degree of regard, but feeling, as I did, that proper respect was not shown to the distinguished body I had the honor to represent, I penned the remonstrance marked "Grenada No. 2," which I left with the Secretary of Grenada Lodge, No. 31, and since have not heard from him on that subject. In this respect the Constitution is liberal, but the framers of that instrument certainly did not mean to confer the right on Subordinate Lodges to set at naught the plans and purposes and disregard the authority of the Grand Lodge.

Shady Grove Lodge, No. 43, and Scott Lodge, U. D., also had notice of my coming and were not in attendance. In every other instance, where an exemplification was not witnessed, good and sufficient cause was shown. A want of general Constitutional ability is too palpable not to merit the attention of this Grand Lodge.

Honorary degrees are hurtful to a right direction of mind upon the study of Ancient Masonry. I am ignorant of the grant by which they are conferred; and if, as I suppose, there be none, they should be discontinued as obnoxious to the best interests and fair fame of our time-honored institution. It has been observed that the Secret Monitor proposes benefits not conferred by the degree of which it is in honor; the levity displayed in conferring others is offensive to moral sensibility.

I have received from the following Lodges the annexed sums as compensation for services rendered, viz:

Leake Lodge, No. 17, \$20; Quitman, No. 18, \$15; Lexington, No. 24, \$25; Aberdeen, No. 32, \$25; Holly Springs, No. 35, \$10; Carrollton, No. 36, \$15; Liberty, No. 37, \$15; Ancient York, No. 38, \$12; Monroe, No. 39, \$16 30; Macon, No. 40, \$20; Salem, No. 45, \$10; Benjamin Franklin, No. 46, \$25; Ripley, No. 47, \$10; Greensboro, No. 49, \$20; Sterling, No. 54, \$15; Chulahoma, No. 55, \$20; Harrison, No. 54, \$15; Tappan, No. 59, \$25; St. Albans, No. 60, \$30; Eureka, No. 61, \$50; Marion, No. 62, \$25; DeKalb, No. 64, \$25; Holmesville, No. 69, \$15; Evening Star, No. 70, \$16 75; Joseph Warren, No. 71, \$10; Wilson, No. 72, \$15; Madison, No. 73, \$17; Camden, No. 74, \$20; Louisville, No. 75, \$30; Houston, No. 67, \$10; Ebenezer, U. D., \$15; Dewitt Clinton, U. D., \$20; Black Hawk, U. D., \$10; Eastern Star, U. D., \$15; Westville, U. D., \$15; Decatur, U. D., \$20. Making the aggregate sum of \$672 05: from which take my expenses of \$205 15, leaves a balance on hand of \$466 90.

If, M. W. Sir and Brother, I have transcended my powers, by the measures proposed in this report, you and my brethren of the Grand Lodge, will please find an apology in the ardour I feel to propagate a right degree of knowledge in the several departments having reference to work and lectures.

JACOB J. DOTY.

Since the above report was written, Grand Gulf, No. 41, Washington, No. 3, Thomas Hinds, No. 58, Mississippi, No. 56, and Asylum, No. 63, have been visited, and services offered to the three Lodges in this city. In completing

my services on this my last visit, I have received from Washington and Mississippi Lodges \$45; from which take my expenses to date, \$38 60, leaves \$6 40 to be added to the sum reported in hand, making the net amount, \$473 30.

In the discharge of the duties assigned me as Grand Lecturer, I have travelled two thousand and fifty-six miles. I have omitted in no instance to offer my services, except at Coffeeville, Oakland, Pikeville and Pontotoc; these Lodges have been organized since my visit last Spring, in that part of the State.

J. J. DOTY.

Natchez, 15th February, A. L. 5847.

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS.

"GRENADA NO. 1."

Grenada Lodge, No. 31, of Free and Accepted Masons:

MONDAY NIGHT, March 30th, 1846.

Resolved, That whereas this Lodge is deeply desirous of finishing its Hall room, and

WHEREAS, They have full confidence in the ability of the Worshipful Master thereof, to impart to them a thorough knowledge of the lectures appertaining to the first three degrees of Masonry; and in consideration of the state of their finances, they deem it proper and right, respectfully to decline the services of Bro. J. J. Doty, in his official capacity of Grand Lecturer of the State of Mississippi, in this Lodge.

Resolved, That while we rejoice to meet Bro. Doty as a friend, a man and brother Mason, good and true, and have full confidence in his knowledge, skill and ability as a Lecturer, we cannot employ him in that capacity without material injury to the designs already drawn on our Trestle-board.

Resolved, That while we feel ourselves compelled to decline the services of Bro. Doty, we, knowing him well, confidently and with pleasure recommend him as a Lecturer to our sister Lodges of the State, who are in want of instruction and have not the means of obtaining it among their own number; and that the proper officers of this Lodge be, and they are hereby authorized, if desirable to Bro. Doty, to draw up such recommendation, and sign it in the name of the Lodge.

Resolved, That the Masters of this Lodge call on Bro. Doty on his arrival, and inform him that his communication has been laid before this Lodge, and of the action thereon, as contained in the foregoing resolutions.

The above resolutions were unanimously adopted.

ATTEST:

D. P. PHILLIPS, Secretary.

GRENADA, NO. 2.

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of Grenada Lodge, No. 31, of Free and Accepted Masons, organized at Grenada, Mississippi:

The undersigned has the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of resolutions adopted by your Lodge, in respect to an official visit, designed to have been made on Friday last, and takes much pleasure in an acknowledgment for the very friendly sentiments thereby expressed; but in the spirit of that brotherly love, which is the bond of union and peace, would suggest the irregularity of your proceedings, and asks that the resolutions be rescinded, and that such others be adopted in their stead, as would be more applicable to the case.

Aware of your pecuniary condition, I did not expect to make a charge against Grenada Lodge. Indeed, it would be under the 10th section of the 1st article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, arbitrary, to make a charge against any Lodge, and especially Grenada Lodge, the dues of which I sustained a remission of, at our last Grand Annual Communication.

An officer of the Grand Lodge has the clear and unquestionable right, in that capacity, upon notice, to visit any Subordinate Lodge under his limit or jurisdiction. Hence the propriety of assembling a Lodge upon notice of such a functionary; and I would add, that the Grand Lecturer's office is one which the Grand Master himself would scarcely interfere with, for to that officer is committed the direction of the work, and no other officer has the right to interfere, nor has any body the legal right to form designs, which he may not approve, and unless the Lodge be assembled, how can he approve or disapprove. The assembling of the Lodge would always relieve the Grand Lecturer from the unpleasant duty of reporting a default, the necessity of which would be otherwise suggested, growing out of imperious duty to a more elevated body, if self-respect did not prompt.

Therefore, I hope the brethren will accept assurances of my high regard, and comply with the request made for the few of many reasons that might be given.

JACOB J. DOTY,

Lecturer for the Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

APRIL 6TH, 1847.

The report and documents, on motion of Bro. Searles, were referred to a select committee, consisting of Bros. Hutchinson, Hyde and Malone.

Bro. Bacon, from Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation, presented the following report :

The Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation, beg leave respectfully to report, that they have made some progress in their labors, and have fully examined the minutes, By-Laws and returns of Coffeerville Lodge, U. D., and are gratified to be able to declare the work of that Lodge to have been performed correctly. Their By-Laws consistent with the constitutions of Masonry, and their returns properly made.

Your Committee, therefore, respectfully recommend to this Grand Lodge that a charter be granted to Coffeerville Lodge, according to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee beg leave to report further, that they have much business yet unfinished before them, and they ask leave to sit again.

AZEL BACHUS BACON, Chairman.

The report, on motion, was received and agreed to.

Bro. Scott had leave of absence granted him, and Bro. Frydinger was appointed on Standing Committee on Unfinished Business in his place, and the Grand Secretary on the Committee to present resolutions to Gen. Quitman's family.

Agreeably to a resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge, Bro. J. Randolph Finley, Grand Chaplain and Agent of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and President of Masonic College at LaGrange, in that State, addressed the Grand Lodge in behalf of that institution, and presented a proposition in relation to the purchase of scholarships by this Grand Lodge, which, on motion of Bro. Hyde, was referred to a select committee of five, consisting of Bros. Hutchinson, Paxton, Cooper, Oliver and Malone.

Bro. Russell presented certain proceedings of Eureka Lodge, No. 61, establishing a school, at Richland, Holmes county, with the ultimate view of making it a Masonic College for the State of Mississippi, which, on motion of Bro. Hutchinson, were referred to the select Committee last mentioned.

The Deputy Grand Master having decided that the representative of a Lodge, which had been working Under Dispensation, and to which a charter had been granted at the present Grand Communication, could take his seat as the representative of a Lodge under charter, and vote as such, immediately after the

issuance of the charter and before any meeting of the Subordinate Lodge and installation of the officers of the same. An appeal was taken from the decision of the chair, and the question being:

"Shall the decision of the chair stand?" it was decided in the affirmative.

Bro. Lacoste presented a memorial from certain Ancient York Masons of Louisiana, which was received, and on his motion, that and all the documents on file relative to Masonry in Louisiana, were referred to a select Committee of seven, the Grand Master being one. The chair appointed the following on said committee: Bros. Lacoste, Hutchinson, Mitchell, of Lexington, Cooper, Malone and Searles.

On motion of Bro. Speight,

Resolved, That Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, be allowed the additional time of three months for the payment of her dues.

Bro. Frydinger presented the petition of J. Callahan for a re-hearing of his appeal from Grand Gulf Lodge, No. 41, which was referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, February 16, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment; present as as before.

Returns from Grenada, 31, Oxford, 33, and Houston, 67, were presented by the Grand Secretary and referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges,

The order of the day for 3 o'clock, P. M., being the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, the

Grand Lodge proceeded to the election, which resulted as follows:

M. W. BENJ. S. TAPPAN.....	Vicksburg.....	Grand Master.
R. W. IRA S. MITCHELL.....	Lexington	Grand Senior Warden.
WILLIAM COOPER.....	Natchez.....	Grand Junior Warden.
D. L. RUSSELL.....	Richland	Grand Chaplain.
CHARLES SCOTT.....	Jackson	Grand Orator.
CHAS. A. LACOSTE.....	Natchez	Grand Treasurer.
WM. P. MELLE.....	Natchez	Grand Secretary.
SAM'L B. MALONE.....	Columbus.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
JAS. A. CHAPMAN.....	Paulding	Grand Junior Deacon.

On motion, the election of the other officers was postponed until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Bro. Searles, from special committee on the subject of the expulsion of Isaac N. Kent, made a report, which, on motion of Bro. Hutchinson, was laid upon the table.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned, till 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, February 17, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Bro. McLeland.

Bros. Scott and Palmer had leave of absence granted them for the remainder of the Communication.

Bro. Hutchinson, from Committee on the subject of the exemplification of the first three Degrees of Masonry, made a report, which, on motion, was laid upon the table.

The Grand Lodge then finished the election of Grand Officers, with the following results, Bro. Malone having declined the office of Grand Senior Deacon to which he had been elected on yesterday.

R. W. J. J. BIRDSONG.....	Brownsville.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
JAS. S. OLIVER.....	Hernando.....	Grand Marshal.
GEO. A. MARTIN.....	Salem.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
H. M. YOUNGBLOOD.....	Fayette.....	Grand Pursuivant.
JOHN A. HUNSTABLE.....	Natchez.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Grand Master-elect then appointed Bro. Samuel B. Malone, of Columbus, Deputy Grand Master.

On motion, it was ordered that the installation of the Grand Officers-elect, take place at 3 o'clock, P. M., this day.

Petitions for a new Lodge at New Orleans, to be called George Washington, and for one at the city of Lafayette, to be called Lafayette, were received and referred to Committee on Masonry in Louisiana.

Bro. Cooper, from Special Committee on Masonry in Louisiana, presented the following report:

WHEREAS, In the opinion of this Grand Lodge, each distinctive Rite, produces different powers which govern it, and is independent of all others; and,

WHEREAS, No Grand Lodge of Scotch, French or cumulative Rites can legally assume jurisdiction over any Ancient York Lodge; therefore,

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Louisiana being composed of a cumulation of Rites cannot be recognized by this Grand Lodge as a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will grant dispensations and charters to any legal number of Ancient York Masons, residing within the State of Louisiana, they making due application for the same.

B. S. TAPPAN,
W. COOPER,
SAMUEL B. MALONE,
IRA S. MITCHELL,
A. HUTCHINSON,
CHAS. A. LACOSTE,
CHAS. J. SEARLES,
Committee.

The report was received and agreed to, and resolutions adopted.

Bro. Doty offered the following resolution, but it was not adopted:

Resolved, That the practice of receiving promissory notes for labor done by the Lodges, subordinate to this jurisdiction, be discontinued except in liquidation of dues.

On motion of Bro. Hutchinson, the following report was called up from the table for consideration:

The Committee appointed to exhibit or cause to be exhibited in this Grand Lodge, the mystic work and lectures in the first three degrees of Ancient Masonry, report: That they have met and bestowed all the consideration on the subject, which circumstances permitted. Whilst it is the most important matter that commends itself to the attention and action of this Grand Lodge.

it is of much perplexity, and hence, the only result on which your Committee could agree, will be found in the following resolutions, which they propose for adoption :

1st. *Resolved*, That it is the decided and unanimous conviction of this Committee, that it is the paramount duty of this Grand Lodge to ascertain the true and Ancient modes of work and lectures in those degrees, to elect a lecturer or lecturers who are competent to exhibit them to the Lodges under this Jurisdiction ; and to charge each Grand Lecturer or Lecturers with the duty of visiting the Lodges for the purpose of giving the requisite instruction.

2d. That the three brethren whose names are mentioned as suitable for election as Grand Lecturer, be requested to present before this Grand Lodge, those degrees, each in succession, performing the duties of Presiding Officer, and the others assisting in the presentation of the degree in the Order orally stated to them by the Committee, so that this Grand Lodge may be the better enabled to provide an uniform mode of work and lectures, or that each of the three deliver the three lectures successively.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to, and the last alteration in the second resolution adopted ; the first resolution and the remainder of the second, the Grand Lodge refused to adopt.

Whereupon, Bros. Doty (late Grand Lecturer), Hawkins and Carpenter severally lectured upon the 1st Degree.

Bros. McKee and Henderson had leave of absence for the remainder of the Communication granted them.

Then the Grand Lodge adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, February 17, 1847, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment. Present as before.

Past Grand Master Robert Stewart was announced and received in due form.

The order of the day being the installation of the Grand Officers elect, the Grand Master elect was duly installed by Past Grand Master Stewart, and then the Grand Master installed the Officers, who took their several stations after the ceremony was performed.

Bro. Bacon made a report from the Committee on Subordinate Lodges under Dispensation, which, on motion, was received. The resolutions reported by the Committee are as follows :

1st. *Resolved*, That Lodges under dispensation hereafter shall not be permitted to act on any petition for initiation in less time than one month after it has been presented.

2d. That two degrees shall not be conferred on the same individual, at any one Communication, nor on the same day by any Lodge under dispensation, nor at any time, unless the candidate shall pass due examination.

3d. That it is improper for Masons to petition for the establishment of a Lodge under dispensation, unless it is their *bona fide* intention to meet with and remain members of the same, and that paucity of members forms no emergency for the conferring of the degrees out of the usual course without due examination of the applicant.

4th. That a committee of three be appointed to draft a code of by-laws for the government of Lodges under dispensation, which committee shall report at the next Grand Annual Communication.

On motion of Bro. Searles, the first resolution was stricken out, and the others were adopted, and the report of the Committee was agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Cooper, from Committee on Masonry in Louisiana,

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary issue dispensations to George Washington Lodge, at New Orleans, and Lafayette Lodge, at the City of Lafayette.

Bro. Hyde, from the Committee on Complaints and Appeals, presented the following report :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals beg leave to report that they have had the petition of Jeremiah Cooper, formerly of Carrollton Lodge, No. 36, under consideration, and as there is not sufficient matter before the Committee to enable them to come to any conclusion in the case, they would recommend that the prayer of the petitioner be granted, that Carrollton Lodge be called upon for the charges and specifications against Jeremiah Cooper, and that the parties be cited to appear before this Grand Lodge, at its next Annual Communication.

Your Committee would beg leave to report on the case of John F. Wray, former Master of Pontotoc Lodge, U. D., that he the said Wray has been guilty of high crimes against the Order, therefore, would respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, Unanimously by this Grand Lodge, that John F. Wray, former Master of Pontotoc Lodge, U. D., be and he is hereby expelled from all the benefits, rights and privileges of Freemasonry, for gross unmasonic conduct.

Your Committee have had the case of Lafayette Lodge, No. 53, against Thomas J. Johnson, Past Grand Junior Warden, under consideration, and have come to the conclusion, unanimously, that his many and glaring offences merit his expulsion. Your Honorable Body having original jurisdiction, by his being a Past Grand Officer, the Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That Thomas J. Johnson, P. G. J. W., be and he is hereby expelled from all the benefits, rights and privileges of Freemasonry, for gross unmasonic conduct.

Your Committee would recommend that Bro. Richard Northcross of Salem Lodge, No. 45, be restored to all the privileges of Freemasonry, and present the following resolution for adoption :

Resolved, That Richard Northcross, of Salem Lodge, No. 45, be re-admitted to the Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, and be re-invested with all the privileges of a brother.

In the cases of Lafayette Lodge, No. 53, vs. Wilson Lodge, No. 72, as in neither of the two cases are the charges preferred by Lafayette Lodge sustained by testimony, the Committee recommend the adoption of the following :

Resolved, That the cases of Lafayette Lodge, No. 53, vs. Wilson Lodge, No. 72, be and are hereby dismissed.

In the case of Benj. C. Oppelt, against DeKalb Lodge, No. 64, your Committee beg leave to represent that the appeal of said Oppelt was not sustained, and recommend the adoption of the following :

Resolved, That the decision of DeKalb Lodge, No. 64, against Benj. C. Oppelt be confirmed.

In the case of George W. Rodgers, appellant, vs. Vannatta Lodge, No. 68, there not being sufficient evidence before the Committee to enable them to come to any conclusions, they recommend that citations be issued to the parties in the case to appear at the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

In the case of J. Callahan, who petitioned for a re-hearing of his case of appeal from Grand Gulf Lodge, your Committee would respectfully represent that there appears to be nothing to require the interference of your Honorable Body.

In the case of Salem Lodge, No. 45, by petition praying the restoration of

H. L. Machin to all the privileges of Masonry, your Committee present the following resolution, granting the prayer of the petition for adoption:

Resolved, That H. L. Machin be and is hereby restored to all the privileges of Freemasonry.

In the case of C. H. Saunders vs. Greensboro Lodge, No. 53, for the want of proper testimony, your Committee recommend that citations issue to the parties concerned to appear at the next Grand Annual Communication, and the case continued till then.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. HYDE, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to, the resolutions adopted and citations ordered to be issued by the Grand Secretary, as recommended by the Committee.

Bro. Calvin Miller, representative from Panola Lodge, No. 66, appeared, presented his credentials and took his seat.

Bro. Searles, from Committee on Foreign Communications, presented the following report:

The Committee on Foreign Communications beg leave to report: That they have had submitted to them a vast amount of documents and correspondence, and that no committee can do justice to themselves or this Grand Lodge, in presenting an abstract of the important and interesting proceedings of our sister Grand Lodges during the few days this Grand Lodge remains in session. Delegates have a paramount duty to perform to the Lodges they represent, and respectfully recommend that the report of this committee be deferred to the next Grand Annual Communication, and submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to peruse carefully all the proceedings, documents and other papers, emanating from Masonic bodies in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, as the same may be received by him, and from the whole, prepare a report to be submitted to the Committee on Foreign Communications, at the next Grand Annual Communication, and, if approved, by said committee, to said Grand Lodge.

2d. That the Committee on Foreign Communications shall hereafter consist of the Grand Secretary, Grand Senior and Junior Wardens, and Grand Treasurer, of which the Grand Secretary shall be the permanent Chairman.

CHARLES J. SEARLES, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Searles called from the table the following report:

The Special Committee, to whom was referred the preamble and resolutions of Raymond Lodge, No. 21, in relation to the expulsion of Isaac N. Kent, from said Lodge, and his restoration to the benefits of Masonry, at the last Grand Annual Communication, beg leave to report:

That they have given all the papers submitted to them a careful perusal, and have made full inquiry into the facts relating to his expulsion. It appears that no appeal was prosecuted by said Kent, from the decision of said Raymond Lodge, and that the first intimation or notice the said Lodge had of the reversal of this decision, was from the published proceedings of this Grand Lodge. Raymond Lodge was not called upon for a copy of the Record, nor were they asked to exhibit the testimony upon which the expulsion was decreed. Your committee think that this Grand Lodge erred in restoring Mr. Kent to the benefits of Masonry, and reversing the decree of Raymond Lodge, without the appeal was properly prosecuted from the Lodge, by having a copy of all the proceedings had therein, the testimony upon which the decree was made, and the Lodge having due notice.

If expelled Masons can come up to the Grand Lodge and be reinstated upon their own statements and the certificates of Masons given out of doors, without giving notice of the appeal to the Lodge below, and prosecuting the appeal in

a just, regular and legal manner, there is no safety for us; and Subordinate Lodges are subordinate indeed.

The committee would remark that they do not wish or intend to cast the slightest censure upon the committee who reported favorably to I. N. Kent, at the last Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge.

Under all the circumstances the committee would propose the following resolutions, and hope they may be adopted :

Resolved, That the case of I. N. Kent be referred to Silas Brown Lodge, No. 65, of the city of Jackson, and that said Lodge be requested to proceed in the trial of said Kent upon the charges preferred against him in Raymond Lodge, No. 21, *de novo*.

2d. That all Masons desiring an enquiry into the decrees of their Subordinate Lodges, in cases of suspension or expulsion, must give the Subordinate Lodges due notice of their intention to appeal; and a copy of the record and all other matters pertaining to the case shall be sent up to this Grand Lodge, at its first Grand Annual Communication after said appeal.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. J. SEARLES,
W. ROSSMAN,
J. J. BIRDSONG.

On motion of Bro. Hutchinson, the report was agreed to and the resolutions adopted.

Bro. Miller, of Panola, presented the appeal of William Smith, from the decree of Panola Lodge, No. 66, expelling him from Masonry, which was referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

Bro. Howze offered the following, which, on his motion, was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges :

Resolved, That the dues of Wilson Lodge, No. 72, be remitted for the year 1846, for the purpose of aiding them in the completion of their Masonic Hall.

The following resolution, offered by Bro. Barrows, was referred to the same committee :

Resolved, That the dues of Silas Brown Lodge, No. 65, for the year 1846, amounting to \$32, be remitted to said Lodge for the purpose of aiding them in the completion of their new Masonic Hall.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 7 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, February 17, 5847, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Present as before, with the addition of Past Grand Master Henry Tooley.

On motion of Bro. Malone,

Resolved, That the Grand Master be allowed, out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, the same mileage and per diem as a representative of a Subordinate Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Malone, the vote agreeing to the report of the committee on Lodges Under Dispensation was rescinded, and all from the word "Resolved," to "that," before "paucity," in the third Resolution reported, which follows, was stricken out, the remainder adopted—and the report laid on the table:

3d Resolution—*Resolved*, That it is improper for Masons to petition for the establishment of a Lodge Under Dispensation, unless it is their *bona fide* intention to meet with, and remain members of the same, and that paucity of members forms no emergency for the conferring of degrees out of the usual course, without due examination of the applicant.

Bro. Mitchell, of Lexington, offered the following, as an amendment to the Constitution: the yeas and nays being called, it appeared that this Grand Lodge deemed it expedient so to amend the Constitution—by yeas 83; nays 48:

Amend 3d section, 3d article, by adding—"Except Ministers of the Gospel, on whom the degrees have been conferred without charge."

On motion of Bro. Malone, •

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to dispense with the printing, in the minutes, of all the Reports of the Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation, except the adopted resolutions.

Bro. Morris offered the following, which was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges:

Resolved, That the dues from DeWitt Clinton Lodge, for the year 1847, be remitted to said Lodge, for the purpose of aiding in building a Masonic Hall in the town of Shongalo.

On motion of Bro. Bonner,

Resolved, That Black Hawk Lodge, Under Dispensation, of Carroll county, have until the first day of May next, to make a return of its proceedings, and upon due examination of them by the Grand Secretary, and payment to him of dues and the required fee, that he be authorized to issue a charter to said Lodge.

On motion of Rev. Bro. Russell,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary now proceed to issue charters to the several Lodges on which the Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation have reported favorably.

The following amendment to the Constitution, offered on Monday, was called up for consideration:

Resolved, That the 8th section, of the 1st article, of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge be amended, by striking out "City of Natchez," and inserting "Seat of Government."

The yeas and nays being called, the result was 57 yeas, and 87 nays. So the Grand Lodge deemed it inexpedient so to amend the Constitution.

Leave of absence was granted to Bros. Searles, Rossman, Anderson, Kearney and Crawford, for the remainder of the Communication.

The following resolutions were submitted and referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges:

By Bro. Marshall:

Resolved, That Benjamin Franklin Lodge, No. 46, be allowed thirty days to make returns.

By Bro. Johnson:

Resolved, That Gallatin Lodge, No. 25, have thirty days in which to remit the balance of her dues, after deducting mileage and per diem.

By Bro. Reynolds:

Resolved, That the dues from Vannatta Lodge, No. 68, be remitted to said Lodge, for the purpose of aiding in building a Masonic hall in the town of Raleigh.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow. •

THURSDAY, February 18, 5847, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment. Present as before.

Leave of absence for the remainder of the session was granted to Bro. Catching.

The Grand Master having left the Chair, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a donation of — dollars be granted to the female common school at Vicksburg.

Which was laid upon the table.

Bro. M. A. Banks had leave of absence granted for the remainder of the Communication.

Bro. Steele offered the following resolution, and on his motion, it was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges:

Resolved, That the fees for a dispensation to Pikeville Lodge, and the dues of the same to the Grand Lodge, be remitted.

Bro. Birdsong offered the following:

Resolved, That no brother be allowed to speak on any one subject more than five minutes without permission from this Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Cooper, the resolution was laid upon the table.

Bro. Smith, of Camden, offered the following:

Resolved, That the dues of Camden Lodge, No. 74, be remitted.

The resolution was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Frydenger offered the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge deems it inexpedient to continue the office of Grand Lecturer, and will not elect a Grand Lecturer for the present year.

2. That this Grand Lodge forbids all persons from visiting Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge for the purpose of lecturing or instructing in the work of Masonry; and forbids all the Lodges under its jurisdiction receiving instructions in the same from all persons, but such as shall be appointed by the Grand Master for that purpose.

3. That any person so authorized to impart instruction, as provided for in the above resolution, shall receive as compensation, in no instance, more than his traveling and other expenses incurred in the discharge of such duties.

4. That the Grand Master be authorized to appoint six District Deputy Grand Masters, whose duty it shall be to qualify themselves in the work and lectures of the first three degrees of Masonry, and when called upon by the Lodges within their district, to visit and instruct them in the same.

Bro. Hutchinson moved to strike out all after the word "resolved," in 1st resolution, and insert as follows:

"That the lectures and mode of work in the first three degrees, known as the work and lectures of T. S. Webb, transmitted through Cross, Cushman and others, and which have been at this meeting exhibited, be adopted as the true and only mode and lectures; and be observed and inculcated in the Subordinate Lodges. Provided, that this resolution shall not be construed as abrogating a former resolution of this body approving of the Trestle-board.

2. That, in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, that — are expert and well informed in the mystic art of Ancient Free Masonry, and that — be appointed Grand Lecturers.

3. That when any of the Subordinate Lodges shall request, the said — are hereby authorized to perform the duties of Lecturer at the expense of said Lodge.

4. That the Subordinate Lodges shall not be allowed to employ, as Lecturers, any other than those recommended by the Grand Lodge.

A division of the question being called for, it was first taken on the motion to strike out all after the word "resolved," in the first resolution, offered by Bro. Frydenger, and decided in the affirmative.

Bro. Barrows moved to lay the whole subject upon the table, but the motion not prevailing, the question was taken upon inserting the first resolution of the amendment, and decided in the affirmative, and the resolution, as amended, was adopted, and the other resolutions of the amendment were withdrawn.

The Committee on Unfinished Business, by Bro. Frydenger, made the following report :

The committee appointed to examine and report the unfinished business of the last session of the Grand Lodge, beg leave to report the following resolution, which was laid upon the table, and which requires the final action of the Grand Lodge at the present Communication, to-wit :

Resolved, That Lodges working under dispensations, not being regularly constituted, are not entitled by the Constitutions of Ancient Masonry to representation in the Grand Lodge, and that the fees paid by said Lodges for their dispensations and charters be considered ample compensation to this Grand Lodge for the privileges said Lodges have enjoyed, and that they are therefore not required to pay dues or contributions to this Grand Lodge.

The committee would also call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the following resolution adopted at the last Grand Annual Communication :

Resolved, That the whole matter relating to the subject of the Grand Lodge lottery, and to the contract of this Grand Lodge with C. F. Hatcher, Esq., in that behalf, be referred to the Grand Master for such action on his part in the recess of this body, as may to him appear expedient, and that he report such action to the next Grand Annual Communication.

Your Committee believe that no report has been made by the Grand Master upon the resolution referred to him ; they would, therefore, recommend an amendment by striking out the Grand Master, and inserting the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer.

They would also notice the requirements of some of our sister Grand Lodges, of Grand Lodge certificates, from brethren coming from beyond their jurisdiction, who claim Masonic hospitality. Your committee deem it necessary and proper that provision should be made to enable our traveling brethren to meet this contingency, and to avail themselves of the privileges of our Order wherever they may go. Your committee would at the same time express their regret at these requirements, as they deem these conventionalities, with which our Order is now surrounded, and which are accumulating daily, to be objectionable to a free and harmonious Masonic intercourse. But as these do exist, they deem it the duty of this Grand Lodge to provide for the brethren in a manner most convenient, and attended with the least possible expense. In the opinion of your committee, this Grand Lodge should procure a suitable number of blank certificates, signd by the Grand Secretary, with the seal of the Grand Lodge affixed thereto, for the use of the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge. Your committee would, therefore, recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to procure — certificates, of suitable form, printed on good and serviceable paper, and that he affix the seal of the Grand Lodge thereto, for the use of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and as a compensation for the same, the said Lodges shall pay him the sum of — cents for each such blank certificate by them received.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. J. WILSON,
J. A. FRYDINGER,
D. N. BARROWS.

On motion, the report was laid upon the table.

Bro. Poor offered the following :

Resolved, that the Grand Secretary prepare and publish with the proceedings of this communication, a condensed summary of the foreign communications submitted at this session ; also, of the report of the Committee on Lodges under Dispensation.

On motion of Bro. Stone, the resolution was laid upon the table.

Bro. Bacon offered the following amendment to the Constitution :

Amend by inserting after section fifth, article third, another section, to-wit :

SECTION VI.—No Subordinate Lodge shall vote upon any application for initiation or advancement, unless the petition or application shall have laid over for one month ; nor shall the same be voted upon except at a regular Communication, unless the applicant is about to leave the State, and it be deemed necessary for his aid and protection that he should more speedily receive the Degree applied for ; *provided*, That the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Wardens may, in any case, if deemed by them one of sufficient emergency, dispense with this regulation.

The Grand Lodge, by yeas 39, nays 96, deemed it inexpedient to amend the Constitution.

Bro. Lacoste offered the following :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be required to have prepared, by the next Grand Annual Communication, a sufficient number of Aprons of lamb-skin for the members of this Grand Lodge ; say three for each Lodge under charter, bearing the respective numbers of such Lodge.

The question being upon the adoption of the resolution, it was lost.

Bro. Ferris presented a memorial from Macon Lodge, No. 40, which was referred to the Grand Secretary with instructions to grant the prayer thereof.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges, through Bro. Banks, of Clinton, made the following report :

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report that they have examined returns, to the present Communication, of the following named Subordinate Lodges, and find the same to be correct, with the exception of a want of uniformity in the manner of making out returns, which has been prescribed and is desirable :

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 16, 17, 18, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75.

Your Committee have been compelled to withdraw their assent to a remission of dues in the cases before them. They think the precedent a bad one.

The By-Laws accompanying the returns are generally correct. Your Committee, however, recommend that the following amendments be made :

Gallatin, No. 25—Art. 2, Sec. 1, be amended by striking out all after "Master or Presiding Officer." Art. 3, Sec. 2, all after the words, "of meeting as possible." Art. 5, Sec. 2, all after the words, "ensuing the election."

Macon, No. 40—Strike out Sec. 2 Art. 3. Amend Sec. 4, Art. 5, by striking out the first three lines.

Shady Grove, No. 43—Strike out Sec. 4, Art. 4.

Vannatta, No. 68—Strike out Sec. 2, Art. 17.

Sterling, No. 54—Strike out amendment to Art. 4, Sec. 1.

Vicksburg, No. 26—The By-Laws rejected.

Your Committee recommend that Benj. Franklin, No. 46, be allowed thirty days to make their returns and pay the dues ; that Gallatin, No. 25, have thirty days to remit their dues ; deducting per diem and mileage ; and that Macon be allowed twelve months for the payment of dues for the past year.

The Subordinate Lodges have failed to make returns of the names of children of destitute Masons (if any) in their jurisdiction, who require education, or whether any sums of money have been expended for educational purposes by them.

Before closing this report, the Committee beg leave to recommend to the Subordinate Lodges, that they hold their elections annually, and that the Masonic year end on the 27th December.

GEO. G. BANKS, Chairman.

The report was received and agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Bonner,

Resolved, That Vannatta Lodge be allowed two months to pay their dues.

Bro. Bonner moved that Grenada Lodge be allowed twelve months to pay their dues, but, on motion of Bro. Benbrook, the dues of said Lodge for the past year were remitted.

On motion of Bro. Steele,

Resolved, That Houston Lodge, No. 67, be allowed six months for the payment of the dues of said Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, February 18, 5847, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment. Present as before, with the exception of those having leave of absence.

Bro. Finley offered the following, which was adopted :

WHEREAS, Hiram Lodge, No. 9, is now dormant, and there are not a sufficient number of Masons in its vicinity to constitute a Lodge ; therefore, be it

Resolved, That a committee of one be appointed to demand and receive all the books and papers, personal and real estate, and dispose, by sale or otherwise, of the real estate and pay the proceeds into the Grand Treasury, and render an account of the same.

Bro. F. A. Newcomb, late Master of Hiram Lodge, was appointed the Committee provided for by said resolution.

Bro. Poor obtained leave of absence for remainder of the Communication.

On motion of Bro. Hyde,

Resolved, That Marion Lodge, No. 62, have twelve months in which to pay dues of said Lodge for the past year.

Bro. Duncan offered the following :

WHEREAS, Thomas Hinds Lodge, No. 58, conferred fifteen degrees on members of the 2d Regiment of Mississippi Volunteers, for which they exacted no compensation, until the return of said volunteers, if they should return ; and,

WHEREAS, Thomas Hinds Lodge, No. 58, has made full return to the Grand Lodge of said degrees and paid the dues for the same ; therefore,

Resolved, That the dues of said Thomas Hinds Lodge, No. 58, for the said fifteen degrees, be remitted.

Bro. Miller, of Panola, moved to amend by including all the Lodges similarly situated, which amendment was lost.

The question being upon the adoption of said preamble and resolution, it was decided in the negative.

On motion of Bro. Banks, of Clinton,

Resolved, That it is inexpedient for this Grand Lodge to go into an election for Grand Lecturer.

Bro. Hyde, from Committee on Complaints and Appeals, presented the following report :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals, would represent that they have had the case of Grenada Lodge, No. 31, against Y. W. Stokes, under consideration, and would respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the decision of Grenada Lodge, No. 31, against Y. W. Stokes, is hereby confirmed.

In the case of appeal of John W. Mann, from Marion Lodge, No. 62, the Committee have given that consideration and attention to the subject, which the importance of the case demanded, and recommend that the papers be returned to Marion Lodge, No. 62, as informal, and the case turned over to Macon Lodge, No. 40, for a final hearing, agreeably to the prayer of the appellant, and that Marion Lodge, No. 62, fix upon some day, as early as may be, for the trial of the case, giving the parties concerned, timely notice.

The case of appeal, William Smith, against Panola Lodge, No. 66, has been duly considered, and the Committee unanimously recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the decision of Panola Lodge, No. 66, expelling William Smith from the benefits of Freemasonry, be and is hereby confirmed.

In the matter of James Aitkin, of Benj. Franklin Lodge, No. 46, after a careful perusal of the papers sent up, your Committee are unable to find anything requiring the interference of this Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. HYDE, Chairman.

The report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Oliver offered the following :

Resolved, That the dues of Oakland Lodge be remitted on the payment of the usual fee for their charter.

Which resolution was lost.

Bro. Youngblood offered the following amendments to the Constitution :

Art. 1, Sec. 10, strike out " member " in 2d line, and insert " Brother."

Art. 2, Sec. 4, strike out " member of the Grand Lodge," in the 6th line, and insert " Brother."

The Grand Lodge refused to amend, yeas 49, nays 75.

Bros. Duncan, Reynolds and Moody had leave of absence for the remainder of the Communication granted them.

Bro. Watts offered the following :

Resolved, That the next Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge be held on the 3d Monday of January, 1848.

On motion, January was stricken out and February inserted; then the resolution, as amended, was adopted :

Bro. Hutchinson, from the Select Committee on Education, made the following report :

The committee to whom subjects concerning education were referred, have had such consideration of those presented as a limited time and embarrassing circumstances permitted. They would have been pleased to have had more time and better opportunity for a just and enlightened solution of the vital matters involved.

We have had submitted to us by the Rev. J. Randolph Finley, agent of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, and Grand Chaplain thereof, who is the President

of the Funk Seminary and Masonic College of that Grand Lodge, proposing in four articles, a contract between that Corporation and this Grand Lodge, the education of one hundred students, indicated by this Grand Lodge, or its authority, out of the Masonic families of this State, for the term of ten years, at and for the amount of \$1500 annually. This is the second presentation of this subject to this Grand Lodge; and the elucidation of the design, structure and objects of that institution, in the able address of Bro. Finley at this Communication, together with the documents furnished by him to the committee, have satisfied us that the Masonic College of Kentucky is one of the wisest and most philanthropic establishments of the present age; that it is eminently practical and auspicious; that its brilliant cestus encompasses the children and orphanage of the Craft; that more truly its eulogy is to be found in the fact that Bro. Finley's successive representations of the institution have prompted the desire of emulating it by the creation of a like institution in Mississippi, adopting it as a model; and that this Grand Lodge ought to recommend to the Subordinate Lodges and fraternity of this State, to devote and concentrate their best and utmost exertions towards the establishment and endowment of a similar College in this State; but that in the interval they ought to extend to the Kentucky College all and every possible preference by causing to be sent to it, to be educated, on its published terms, our children and orphans.

When it shall have been in the power of the fraternity in this State, either to establish, or by the application of its funds, efficiently to aid in the establishment of such a home College, our preference of it and our exclusive patronage of it must be approved.

The proposition of Eureka Lodge, No. 61, so ably and persuasively presented by the Most Rev. Bro. Russell, has been concurrently considered by us. There are many Masons in favor of the locality it proposes for the Central Institution of Masonic patronage; and the laudable spirit exhibited by all engaged in that undertaking, merits unlimited praise.

From the best information this committee has obtained, there will be in the Treasury of this Grand Lodge but a small surplus after paying the annual and contingent expenses; and as the committee deem it inexpedient and impracticable at present to adopt any measure whereby to increase considerably the surplus fund, they regard it as not now within the ability of this Grand Lodge to manifest by its action, the convictions, the feelings and the hopes it entertains.

Your committee, therefore, submit the following for adoption:

Resolved, That considering the pecuniary inability of this body to make endowments, but considering also, the expenses incurred by the agent of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, in visiting us and unfolding to us the nature and benefits of the Masonic College in that State, he be requested to receive from the Grand Secretary the sum of \$50.

2d. That until a State institution, after the model furnished by the Funk Seminary and Masonic College, shall be put into operation in this State, this Grand Lodge recommends a resort to that College for the education of Masonic children and orphans.

2d. That this Grand Lodge, as an evidence of its desire to encourage and patronize such an institution as the Kentucky establishment, grants to Eureka Lodge, No. 61, in trust, and for the education of the orphanage of Masonry within this State, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Master, the sum of \$400, payable in quarterly installments.

4. That twenty-five per cent. of the aggregate gross funds of this Grand Lodge, hereafter to be received, when that amount does not exceed three-fourths of the surplus in the Grand Treasury, be set apart for educational purposes.

A. HUTCHINSON,
SAM'L B. MALONE,
JAMES S. OLIVER,
WM. COOPER,
Committee.

The report was received.

Bro. Barrows moved to amend the fourth resolution by adding: "Provided, each Subordinate Lodge may, at its option, retain twenty-five per cent. from its annual dues, for the purposes of education of orphans of deceased Masons within its own jurisdiction."

The Grand Lodge refused to amend, but on motion, adopted the resolutions severally, and agreed to the report.

On motion of Bro. Cooper, the following resolution was called up from the table, and the blank filled with \$250, and adopted:

Resolved, That a donation of two hundred and fifty dollars be granted to the female common school, at Vicksburg.

Bro. Howle had leave of absence granted for the remainder of the session.

On motion of Bro. Speight,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to have published four hundred copies of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, and that he transmit two copies to each Subordinate Lodge, one to each delegate, and to each of the Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge.

A memorial from Bro. Alexander Wilson, of St. Louis, was presented by Bro. Doty.

On motion of Bro. Mitchell, an appropriation of seventy-five dollars was made in accordance with the prayer of the memorialist.

On motion of Bro. Mitchell,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be cordially tendered to Bros. J. J. Doty, Ira Carpenter and Thos. J. Hawkins, for their many interesting and able lectures imparted by them at the present Communication, and that as a compensation for the expenses to which they have been subjected by the performance of those services, the sum of twenty-five dollars be appropriated out of the Grand Treasury for the benefit of each of said brethren.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till half-past seven o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, February 18th, 7:30 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion of Bro. Holman,

Resolved, That Scott Lodge be allowed the sum of one hundred dollars, to be paid out of the funds of the Grand Lodge, for the purpose of assisting them to erect a Masonic school house, in the town of Hillsborough.

On motion of Bro. Miller, of Ripley,

Resolved, That Joseph Warren Lodge, No. 71, be allowed the further time of three months to make returns to this Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Barrows,

Resolved, That Lodges working under dispensation, not being regularly constituted, and not entitled by the Constitutions of Ancient Free Masonry, to representation in the Grand Lodge, that the fees paid by the said Lodges for their Dispensations and charters be considered ample compensation to the Grand Lodge for the privileges said Lodges enjoy while Under Dispensation, and that hereafter they shall not be required to pay annual dues to this Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Conrad,

Resolved, That Asylum Lodge, No. 63, be allowed one month to pay its dues to the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Marshall, the following preamble and resolution were adopted :

WHEREAS, Benjamin Franklin Lodge, No. 46, has by resolution appropriated and set apart, out of the funds of said Lodge, the sum of one hundred dollars annually, to be applied in the education of children of worthy Master Masons, and is at this time employing said funds in the education of worthy subjects ; therefore,

Resolved, That the dues of Benjamin Franklin Lodge, No. 46, for 1846, be and the same are hereby remitted.

Bro. Ferris offered the following preamble and resolution, which were adopted :

WHEREAS, A National Masonic Convention is proposed to be held in the city of Baltimore, Maryland, on the — day of September next ; therefore,

Resolved, That the Grand Master is hereby authorized to attend said National Convention, or to appoint some able and skilful brother to represent the Grand Lodge therein.

On motion of Bro. Speight,

Resolved, That the case of J. W. Mann, against Marion Lodge, No. 62, with the papers in the same, be returned to said Lodge as informal, and that the said case be referred to Macon Lodge, No. 40, for final action, agreeably to the prayer of the petitioner, and to the recommendation of the Committee on Complaints and Appeals ; and that Marion Lodge be ordered to furnish the accused, and also Macon Lodge, with a copy of the charges and specifications, and that said Macon Lodge appoint a time of trial immediately, and cite the parties to a final hearing.

The Committee on Accounts, by Bro. McLelland, made the following report, which was received and agreed to :

The Committee on Accounts beg leave to make the following report: That they have audited, and recommend for allowance, the following accounts: T. A. S. Doniphan, for printing blanks, \$20 00; Elward & Elder, for stationery, \$10 37; J. A. Hunstable, Steward and Tyler, \$47 25.

Which is respectfully submitted.

O. D. KEARNEY,
J. B. SMITH,
JAS. B. MCLELLAND.

Bro. Hutchinson, chairman of the select committee to whom was referred the report of the Grand Lecturer, made a verbal report, showing the impossibility, employed, as were the several members of this committee, on other committees, to do justice to the question presented by the Grand Lecturer, during the present communication ; and on motion of Bro. Hutchinson the committee was discharged, and the Grand Lecturer's report was referred to the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior and Junior Wardens, Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, with instructions to report to the Grand Lodge at the next Grand Annual Communication.

On motion, the thanks of the Grand Lodge were tendered to the Grand Master, for the able and impartial manner in which he has presided during the present Communication.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in ample form.

WILLIAM P. MELLEN, Grand Secretary.

THIRTIETH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1848.

NATCHEZ, February 21st, 1848.

PRESENT:

R. W.:	IRA S. MITCHELL.....	G. S. W., as Grand Master.
	WM. COOPER.....	G. J. W., as G. S. Warden.
	S. H. JOHNSON	Grand Junior Warden <i>p. t.</i>
	REV. D. L. RUSSELL.....	Grand Chaplain.
	CHARLES A. LACOSTE.....	Grand Treasurer.
	WILLIAM P. MELLE.....	Grand Secretary.
	S. A. MATTHEWS.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
	JAS. A. CHAPMAN.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
	JOHN A. HUNSTABLE.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Lodges represented:

Clinton Lodge, No. 16—R. J. Coopender.
 Leake, No. 17—W. G. Russell.
 Quitman, No. 18—Ira Carpenter.
 Raymond, No. 21—W. B. Williamson.
 Lexington, No. 24—Ira S. Mitchell.
 Gallatin, No. 25—S. H. Johnson, W. W. Cook.
 Canton, No. 28—T. C. Tupper.
 Grenada, No. 31—John A. Williamson.
 Olive Branch, No. 34, Lawson Boothe.
 Holly Springs, No. 35—John Pitman.
 Monroe, No. 39—James Carpenter.
 Grand Gulf, No. 41—J. A. Frydenger.
 Yazoo, No. 42—Daniel A. James, N. W. Camp.
 Shady Grove, No. 43—William J. Willing.
 Benj. Franklin, No. 46—W. M. Porter.
 Ripley, No. 47—T. J. Davidson.
 Hernando, No. 51—Joseph G. Hall,
 Locke, No. 52—A. H. Hendrick, Jos. Deutsch.
 Sterling, No. 54—James A. Chapman.
 Chulahoma, No. 55—George C. Nicholson.
 Mississippi, No. 56—Charles Tullis.
 Harrison, No. 57—James E. Watts.
 Tappan, No. 59—Charles S. Spann.
 St. Albans, No. 60—William H. Lott.
 Eureka, No. 61—W. N. Bonner, S. D. Shackelford.
 Marion, No. 62—Simeon Switzer.
 Asylum, No. 63—F. Gildart, Parker Smith.

DeKalb, No. 64—W. Hyde.
 Vannatta, No. 68—Richard Cooper.
 Holmesville, No. 69—S. A. Matthews.
 Evening Star, No. 70—H. Dear.
 Madison, No. 73—B. F. Crowell.
 Camden, No. 74—Samuel Hamblin.
 Ebenezer, No. 76—J. O. Lusher.
 Evergreen, No. 77—N. R. Jones.
 Westville, No. 78—J. M. Layne.
 Eastern Star, No. 79—A. S. Kottwitz.
 Scott, No. 80—D. R. Jones.
 Pontotoc, No. 81—R. W. Edmondson.
 DeWitt Clinton, No. 84—Charles Kopperl.
 Pikeville, No. 85—R. G. Steele.
 Mt. Moriah, No. 86—James Gillespie.
 United Friends, U. D.—Alexander McLeod.
 Philadelphia, U. D.—John Watts.
 Eastport, U. D.—W. Cooper.
 Emory, U. D.—M. B. Rogers.

Several Past Grand Officers and Past Masters were also present.

The Grand Lodge was opened in form, in the Third Degree. Prayer by the Most Reverend Grand Chaplain.

The following named Standing Committees were appointed :

On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. Tupper, Frydenger, Lusher and Hall.

On Subordinate Lodges—Bros. Pittman, Hyde, James, Matthews, Kopperl, Chapman and Steele.

On Unfinished Business—Bros. Boothe, Bonner, Crowell, Johnson and John Watts.

On Accounts—Bros. Davidson, Williamson, of Grenada, Russell, of Leake, and Gillespie.

On Lodges Under Dispensation—Bros. Parker Smith, James E. Watts, Gildart, Hamblin, Lacoste and Craig.

On motion of Bro. Doty,

Resolved, That the "Free Masons' Magazine," a periodical published in Boston, Mass., and edited by our distinguished Bro. Charles W. Moore, is a work pre-eminently entitled to command the respect and patronage of the whole Masonic Fraternity.

2. That the Lodges subordinate to this Jurisdiction, be earnestly recommended to take the above mentioned periodical, as the best means of enlightenment on questions of Constitutional law, as well as on account of the vast amount of other interesting and useful matter it contains.

Bro. Edmondson offered the following :

WHEREAS, It appears, by reference to the records of the Grand Secretary, that the sum of forty dollars was paid to the Grand Lodge by Pontotoc Lodge U. D., in the year 1838, over and above the amount of dues then owing by said Lodge to the Grand Lodge, and whereas, the said sum of money remains unappropriated ; be it therefore

Resolved, That the said sum of forty dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated to the payment of the dues of Pontotoc Lodge, No. 81, for the year 1847.

On motion of Bro. Frydenger, the resolution was referred to a select committee. The committee appointed by the Chair consisted of Bros. Frydenger, Crowell and Davidson, who shortly after reported the same back without amendment, and the report of the committee, on motion, was received and agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

The Grand Secretary presented his account current, and made the following annual report :

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The undersigned, Grand Secretary, respectfully reports, that, in obedience to the directions of the Grand Lodge at the last Grand Annual Communication, charters were issued to

Ebenezer Lodge, No. 76; Evergreen, No. 77; Westville, No. 78; Eastern Star, No. 79; Scott, No. 80; Pontotoc, No. 81; Oakland, No. 82; Coffeeville, No. 83; Dewitt Clinton, No. 84; Pikeville, No. 85; Mt. Moriah, No. 86.

Dispensations to

Prairie Lodge—At Okolona, Miss.

Trinity—at Kosciusko, Attala county, Miss.

Oktibbeha—In Oktibbeha county, Miss.

George Washington—At New Orleans, parish of Orleans, La.

Lafayette—At City of Lafayette, parish of Jefferson, La.

And under the direction of the Grand Master, dispensations to

Warren—At New Orleans, parish of Orleans, La.

Marion—At New Orleans, parish of Orleans, La.

Franklin—At Franklin, parish of St. Mary, La.

Belmont—At Belmont, Panola county, Miss.

The Crescent City—At New Orleans, Parish of Orleans, La.

St. Johns—At Second Mississippi Regiment, Buena Vista, Mexico.

United Friends—At Princeton, Washington county, Miss.

Willis—At Polkville, Miss.

Philadelphia—At Philadelphia, Neshoba county, Miss.

Eastport—At Eastport, Tishomingo county, Miss.

Quitman—At Vera Cruz, State of Vera Cruz, Mexico.

Hiram—At New Orleans, Parish of Orleans, La.

Emory—At Emory, Holmes county, Miss.

Enreka—At City of Lafayette, Parish of Jefferson, La.

The dispensation to First Regiment Lodge was renewed. That Lodge reports that there was but one meeting, and no work done under the original dispensation.

A dispensation was prayed for, to establish a new Lodge at North Mt. Pleasant, but the requisitions of the Constitution not having been complied with, it was not issued.

A letter from Mason Pilcher, returning dispensation for Lodge at Franklin, La., is herewith submitted. He asks that the money paid for the same may be refunded, for reasons which he gives.

Dr. G. W. Ernsweiler, now residing at Bastrop, La., but formerly at Camden, Madison, county, Miss., informed me, by letter, in March last, that he had been expelled by Camden Lodge, No. 74, and through me, prayed an appeal. I immediately notified Camden Lodge of the fact, and requested that Lodge to send up the record of the case, and the testimony in writing, in time to receive your action.

The undersigned, on the 31st of March last, informed Vannatta Lodge, No. 68, by letter, of the disposition made of the case of Geo. W. Rogers, brought from that Lodge by appeal, and cited said Lodge and the said Rogers to appear at the present Grand Communication, as required by your resolution of last year.

The Grand Lodge, at the last Grand Communication, granted an appeal to C. H. Sanders, from the decision of Greensboro' Lodge, No. 49, expelling him from Masonry, and in obedience to instructions, said Lodge was duly cited to send up the record and to appear in the case at your present Communication.

In the case of Jere. Cooper, who appealed from the decision of Carrollton Lodge, No. 36, expelling him from Masonry, a rehearing was granted and the Lodge required to furnish charges and specifications and send up the record.

The Lodge was duly notified of what was required and cited to appear in the case at the present term.

The case of John W. Mann, who appeals from Marion Lodge, No. 62, was transferred to Macon Lodge, No. 40, for new trial. Marion was duly requested by the undersigned, to file with Macon Lodge, the charges and specifications against Bro. Mann, and Macon Lodge to give due notice to the parties of the day of trial. Bro. Mann was also notified of the disposition of his case by the Grand Lodge.

On the 2d April, the undersigned wrote to Isaac N. Kent, by mail, informing him of the reconsideration, by this Grand Lodge, of the vote which restored him to Masonry and that his case was referred to Silas Brown Lodge, No. 65, for trial *de novo*, upon the charges preferred against him in Raymond Lodge, No. 21. These Lodges were also notified of this fact and of their respective duties in the premises.

On the petition of Thomas J. Johnston for a rehearing on the charges preferred against him by Lafayette Lodge, No. 53, the Grand Master has granted him a rehearing, in consideration that he had no opportunity of making any defence, having received no notice that the charges would be preferred against him at the last Grand Annual Communication. The Lodge was notified and Bro. Johnston's defence is on file.

Upon the request of Sam. H. Levy the undersigned notified Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, on the 11th October last, that said Levy desired to appeal from the decision of said Lodge suspending him from Masonry for unmasonic conduct, and requested the papers to be sent up.

The undersigned has the honor to present herewith, a letter from the Grand Secretary of Alabama, concerning certain resolutions of Union Lodge, No. 50, in that State relative to Wm. H. Estes, who was expelled from Masonry by Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, of Mississippi, and a resolution of the Grand Lodge of Alabama referring the subject to this Grand Lodge, and asking its favorable consideration. (B.)

Upon receiving this communication, the undersigned, immediately notified Aberdeen Lodge of the substance of the resolutions, that the representative from that Lodge might bring up such information as the records of the Lodge might give as to the cause of said Estes' expulsion so that the Grand Lodge might act advisedly in this novel proceeding.

The appeal of Daniel McDaniel from the decision of DeKalb Lodge, No. 64, on charges preferred by him against Madison Edwards, has been granted by said Lodge, and the charges and specifications, properly certified, are herewith presented.

Since the foregoing part of this report was written, Macon Lodge, No. 40, has made a report of her action in the case of John W. Mann above mentioned. Failing to procure his attendance at the several meetings appointed for the trial of his case, after being satisfied that said Mann had been duly notified of the times of meeting, the Lodge proceeded to suspend him, until he appeared to answer the charges filed against him.

The rooms in the basement of the Grand Hall are under rent at the rate of \$6 per month each.

The receipts for the past year from all sources have been \$3,798 21.

All demands on the Treasury have been promptly met, but the Grand Treasurer's account will show no surplus.

The total receipts for the present year are estimated at \$4,000, probably higher than they will ever be again, owing to peculiar circumstances which are not likely again to occur. The mileage and per diem and other contingent expenses, are also likely to be greater, in the same proportion and from the same cause.

The expenditures will reach, probably.....	\$3,000 00
Balance.....	1,000 00
To School Fund.....	750 00
Leaving \$250, for general appropriation.	

The undersigned presents bills of R. Stewart & Co., for desks and cases for his office, ordered by the Grand Lodge, \$118; and a bill of R. Elward for \$15 for a ledger, and bills for stationary amounting to \$11 75.

The report of the managers of Lottery is herewith presented. By the account rendered by them last year, it appeared that they still had the privilege of selling \$19,905 11 worth of tickets. The present report shows the sales to have been, for the last year \$8,905 16. Balance \$10,999 95 to finish contract. The managers say that they cannot state the exact time when they will be able to finish their contract with the Grand Lodge, "but can safely say that the present contract will expire, by its own limitation, some time next year, 1849."

Agreeably to instructions from the Grand Master, the undersigned has required a new bond, with additional security, of Mr. Hatcher, with whom the contract was last renewed. It has not yet been given, but is expected during your present session.

It was made the pleasant duty of the undersigned, last year, to forward some resolutions which were adopted by you, to our then Grand Master Gen. Quitman, who was with his Brigade in Mexico. They related to him and his family. I have now the honor of presenting his acknowledgement of their receipt. (A.)

The Grand Secretary also presents herewith, a curious trophy, under the circumstances, taken from the public enemy, which he received from Bro. Quitman, to-wit: a copy of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi for the year 1829, at which time Bro. Quitman was Grand Master, endorsed "Taken from the archives of the State Department in the National Palace of the City of Mexico, on the 3d day of October, A. D. 1847," (signed) "G. T. M. Davis, A. D. C."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. P. MELLE, Grand Secretary.

A.

HEAD QUARTERS, 2d BRIGADE, VOLUNTEER DIVISION, }
CAMP NEAR JALAPA, April 2, 1847. }

Sir and Brother: On my return from Alverado and just before my march to this place, I had the honor to receive your letter covering the late resolutions of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi in relation to myself. They were read with deep feelings of gratitude not only for the fraternal kindness exhibited towards myself, but for the delicate consolation which they breathe towards my beloved family, the temporarily bereaved Mason's wife and children.

Be pleased to present to the Grand Master, Wardens and Brethren, my thanks for their kind remembrance and receive for yourself the assurance of my regard and esteem.

J. A. QUITMAN, Brig. Gen. U. S. A.

WM. P. MELLE, Grand Secretary, etc.

B.

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE, }
Montgomery, Alabama, Dec. 16, 1847. }

Sir and Brother: I forward to you the following part of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the State of Alabama, concurred in at its last Communication, which I beg of you to submit before your Grand Lodge of Mississippi for their consideration, and would also beg of you an answer at as early a period as possible.

UNION LODGE, No. 50, }
Nov. 13, A. L. 5847. }

WHEREAS, More than three years ago, William H. Estes was expelled by Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, in the State of Mississippi;

AND WHEREAS, His expulsion was affirmed by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi in 1845;

AND WHEREAS, said Wm. H. Estes has resided in our vicinity most of the time since his expulsion and during his residence amongst us has obtained the good opinion and confidence of our fraternity:

Resolved, Unanimously, by Union Lodge, No. 50, that without intending to reflect on the Grand Lodge or Subordinate Lodge of Mississippi, or calling in question the justice of their action, we believe from his gentlemanly conduct and correct deportment that said Estes has made sufficient atonement for the offence with which he was charged, even supposing him guilty.

2d. That we ask of the Grand Lodge of Alabama at its next session to reinstate said W. H. Estes to all the privileges of Masonry as he is now living within its jurisdiction.

3d. *Resolved*, That our representative to the next Grand Lodge be instructed to present the matters herein contained to the Grand Lodge, and use his endeavors to obtain the object designated herein.

4th. That the Secretary of Union Lodge be, and he is hereby directed, to make out a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions, under his hand and the seal of this Lodge to be transmitted to the Grand Lodge.

A copy from the minutes.

J. J. DRAKE, Secretary.

The above memorial having been referred to a select committee for consideration, the chairman thereof reported the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the petition and accompanying memorial from Union Lodge, No. 50, be respectfully referred to the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi.

2d. That the Grand Lodge of the State of Alabama, respectfully ask of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi to give to the memorial and petition of Union Lodge, No. 50, a favorable consideration, and grant the prayer of the petition, if consistent with their views of Masonic usage.

3d. That the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi is respectfully asked to give their consent that Union Lodge, No. 50, may if they think proper, upon a satisfactory showing of the petitioner, reinstate him to the benefits of Masonry.

4th. That this Grand Lodge has adopted this course because they are anxious scrupulously to avoid interference with the proper jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

5th. That the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge make out a transcript of the petition and memorial from Union Lodge, No. 50, and these resolutions and transmit the same to the next Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi.

A true copy from the proceedings.

(Signed)

ARMAND P. PFISTER,

G. Sec'y, G. L. of Ala.

The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer each presented their accounts current, showing the total receipts for the year to have been \$3798 21. Expenditures, \$3736 93.

On motion of Bro. Frydinger, the subject matters of the Grand Secretary's report, and the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, were referred to the appropriate Committees.

THE BALTIMORE CONVENTION.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

By a resolution adopted at the last Grand Annual Communication, the Grand Master was authorized to attend a National Masonic Convention at Baltimore,

in September last, or "to appoint some able and skillful brother," to represent your Most Worshipful Body therein.

From information received by your Grand Secretary, in answer to his circular of inquiry, it was presumed, until late in the month of August, that no Convention would be held as had been proposed, but at which time the Grand Master was informed, by circular from the Grand Secretary of Maryland, that the proposition to hold said Convention had received the assent of a majority of the Grand Lodges of the United States, and that said Convention would, undoubtedly, be held at the time and place before suggested. Owing to his own ill health and that of his family, the Grand Master found it impossible to leave home, and the shortness of the time not permitting him to look around for one better qualified to sustain the reputation and the interests of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, who would find it convenient to go to Baltimore so late in the season as September, the undersigned had the honor to receive the appointment, and now respectfully reports that he attended the Convention and discharged the trust confided to him to the best of his ability.

On arriving at Baltimore, it was soon ascertained that but few delegates were present, but it was deemed proper to organize in the hope that more would arrive before the adjournment; and, as it was thought that, though our numbers should not be increased, we might, perhaps, agree upon an instrument which would be acceptable, as a Constitution for a Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States to the Grand Lodges not represented as well as to our constituents. This thought had the more influence, as our powers only extended to the framing of an instrument which we could recommend for adoption, but in no case to be binding upon any of our constituents until specially and formally adopted by them.

It was ascertained, subsequently, that a majority of the Grand Lodges had not, as was supposed by the Grand Secretary of Maryland, agreed to the establishment of a Supreme Grand Lodge, but as the work of the Committee upon the Constitution was completed, it received the action of the Convention and was finally adopted by that body, a copy of which is herewith presented, with the very able address of the Committee in its support, for your consideration and adoption or rejection, as you, in your wisdom, may decide.

The undersigned owes it to you and to himself, to say that this instrument, or Constitution, did not meet with his approbation, and having failed to procure its amendment to suit his, and, what he believed to be, your views, he found himself under the necessity of voting against its adoption by the Convention, and for the reasons which governed his action at Baltimore, he cannot now recommend it to your favorable consideration.

The undersigned objected particularly to the 8th section of the 1st article which gives power to the Supreme Grand Lodge to issue dispensations and charters.

1st. Because it provides for a wholly unnecessary surrender of rights and a curtailment of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodges. It is true that it is only proposed that the Supreme Grand Lodge shall have the power to issue dispensations and charters in those States and Territories in which no Grand Lodge is organized. Since the Revolution, this power has been exercised concurrently by the Grand Lodges without the slightest conflict or misunderstanding even; and, therefore, none could reasonably be expected to arise, from a continued exercise of this power. In creating a common arbiter, to ultimately decide controversies which have arisen and may arise between the Grand Lodges and to produce an uniform mode of work, it was not necessary, nor was it contemplated by your Most Worshipful Body, that there should be any diminution of your just powers and rights beyond what was necessary for the accomplishment of these two objects. It may be urged that such grant was made by the Grand Chapters to the General Grand Chapter, and it is admitted, but what is the consequence? A conflict of jurisdiction between the General Grand Chapter and a State Grand Chapter, growing out of this very provision, and, indeed, the granting of this power to the General Grand Chapter, is con-

sidered by many as so great a defect in the Constitution of that Body as to render its dissolution desirable.

2d. Because the entire revenue for the support of the Supreme Grand Lodge would be taken from the West, and, in effect, from the treasuries of the younger Grand Lodges upon our Western border.

No provision was made for raising a revenue, excepting the one above objected to, by granting of dispensations and charters. Your representative deeming it but fair that the burthen of the support of the Supreme Grand Lodge, should be borne at least in part, by the Grand Lodges east of the mountains, if not equally by all, they being entitled to an equal representation and an equal vote to those western Grand Lodges, who now enjoy the rights and the profits of issuing dispensations and charters in those States and Territories not occupied by any Grand Lodge, concurrently with other Grand Lodges, but who, by virtue of contiguity, receive the most profit, he proposed, in Committee of the Whole, to raise whatever revenue might be needed by an equitable tax upon the several Grand Lodges. Although he could see no objection to it himself, and heard no argument against it, (if we except the assertion that the Grand Lodge of Maryland would not consent to be taxed,) the proposition met with no favor.

The undersigned also objected to the 5th section of the same article by which the Triennial Communications of the Supreme Grand Lodge are required to be held alternately east and west of the Alleghany Mountains, beginning at Baltimore in the year 1849. He was opposed to this vibrating movement in such a body, and thought it but just and equitable that a point should have been selected for the seat of Masonic Government, at the centre of the Masonic Circle, have only in view "the greatest convenience of the greatest number."

Failing in obtaining the adoption of these measures which justice sanctioned and reason could not oppose, and being sincerely desirous that a Constitution should emanate from the Convention, without such patent defects and which would be acceptable to all those Grand Lodges who desire the establishment of a Supreme Grand Lodge, the undersigned earnestly besought the Convention to leave the questions of revenue and the seat of government open to be settled by the Supreme Grand Lodge at the first Convocation in Baltimore in 1849. This was also denied and nothing was left to the undersigned but to vote against the Constitution and announce his conviction that it would prove unacceptable to his constituents, as well as to the other Grand Lodges of the west. It is but right to say that this Grand Lodge has no pecuniary interest in the revenue question, unless it be on the side of the Grand Lodge of Maryland and the other eastern Grand Lodges, for we have already one Grand Lodge west of us, and will have another in a few days, and it is not at all probable that another application from any unoccupied Territory, for a new Lodge, will ever be addressed to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi; but it is a question of principle, and he trusts that policy will never make this Grand Lodge run counter to equity. As the only representative from the west, unless we include our intelligent and most excellent Bro. Gould, from Georgia, who represented the Grand Lodge of Arkansas with great ability, but, without being specially informed upon the subject, it is imagined, in opposition to its wishes and interests upon the objectionable measures above mentioned, the undersigned believed that his duty required of him to attempt the protection of the western interests. The undersigned does not mean, by the word "protection," the giving to them, or obtaining for them, any exclusive privileges or benefits, but to see that none were unnecessarily taken from them.

Constituted as the Convention was, the undersigned particularly opposed the adoption of those measures by a majority and requiring a vote of two-thirds of the Grand Lodges to make an amendment. If the Convention had been full, this objection would, of course, had no weight.

Your representative desired that at least twenty, instead of sixteen, Grand Lodges should give their assent before said Constitution should have effect, believing it advisable that a proposition to create a body heretofore unknown to

Masonry, should receive the approval of at least the former number; but in this he was also overruled.

The only thing the undersigned has to regret is his failure in procuring the adoption of his views upon the above mentioned provisions, for his intercourse with his very intelligent and worthy brethren of the Convention was of the most pleasant character and will be long remembered with pleasure.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. P. MELLEN.

Constitution for the Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States of America.

• ARTICLE I.

SECTION 1. The Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted, Ancient York Masons, in the United States of America, are declared to be united under one Supreme Grand Lodge. *Provided*, That before the first day of January, 1849, sixteen of the said Grand Lodges shall have ratified this Constitution, and not otherwise. This section is to take effect on such Grand Lodges only as may ratify or adopt this Constitution, and such as may be formed under it. Any State Grand Lodge, which shall have come under this jurisdiction, may, at any time, withdraw from the same, without censure, by a concurrent vote of two-thirds at each of two successive, regular, annual meetings, communicated to the Supreme Grand Secretary. *Provided*, No Grand Lodge shall have the right to withdraw during the pendency of an appeal, to which said Grand Lodge is a party, nor while under censure.

SEC. 2. The Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States of America shall have jurisdiction over all Grand and Subordinate Symbolic Lodges in the United States and Territories, ratifying or adopting this Constitution, and in those where is no Grand Lodge. Its jurisdiction shall extend to all disputes or differences between State Grand Lodges; to appeals from the same; to the government and superintendence of their own Subordinate Lodges; and to the regulation of the mode of work, in the symbolic degrees, throughout its limits.

SEC. 3. The officers of this body shall be a Supreme Grand Master, two Deputy Supreme Grand Masters, Supreme Senior and Junior Grand Wardens, Supreme Senior and Junior Grand Deacons, Supreme Secretary, and Supreme Treasurer. *Provided*, It shall be competent for the Supreme Grand Lodge to appoint, for the time being, such other subordinate officers as may be deemed expedient, who shall not be entitled to vote as such. The foregoing officers for the time being, with all Past Supreme Grand and Supreme Deputy Grand Masters, the Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Wardens of State Grand Lodges, and Masters of Subordinate Lodges in States and Territories having no Grand Lodges, shall constitute the Supreme Grand Lodge.

SEC. 4. Each Supreme Grand officer, and each Master of a Subordinate Lodge shall have one vote, and the officer or officers present, or their proxies, of each State Grand Lodge four votes. The representatives of three State Grand Lodges shall form a quorum for business. The Supreme Grand Master, Supreme Deputy Grand Masters and Supreme Grand Wardens, and the State Grand Masters and Deputy Grand Masters, and no others, may appear and vote by proxy. No proxy shall be given to a Supreme Grand Officer, or to any person not a member of some Lodge under this jurisdiction.

SEC. 5. The Supreme Grand Lodge shall meet triennially, on the second Tuesday in July, at a place from time to time to be appointed. The meetings shall be holden, alternately, east and west of the Alleghany Mountains, beginning at Baltimore, in the year 1849.

SEC. 6. If, at any time, the election of officers shall, from any cause, fail to be had at the appointed period, the existing officers shall hold their places till their successors shall be elected and installed.

SEC. 7. The Supreme Grand Master, and in case of his death or inability to act, either of the Supreme Deputy Grand Masters, shall have power to call a meeting of this body, at any time, on giving three months notice; and either of them shall do so, whenever requested by three of the State Grand Lodges.

SEC. 8. Either of the first three Supreme Grand officers may grant dispensations for Lodges in any State or Territory where there is no Grand Lodge; which shall be valid till the next meeting of this body, when a charter may be granted. *Provided*, That if there be in such State or Territory any existing Lodge, no dispensation or charter shall issue, without a recommendation from the nearest Lodge. The fees for a dispensation or charter shall not be less than fifty dollars, and ten dollars to the Supreme Grand Secretary for engrossing the charter, to be paid always in advance; which fee shall be immediately remitted, by the officer receiving it, to the Supreme Grand Treasurer. And every Subordinate Lodge, acting under the immediate jurisdiction of the Supreme Grand Lodge, shall pay to this body, for every candidate raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, the sum of one dollar. The jurisdiction of the several Grand Lodges, under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Grand Lodge shall be restricted to the limits of the State or Territory in which they respectively are held.

SEC. 9. The fees for conferring the first three degrees in Masonry, under this jurisdiction, shall never be less than fifteen dollars.

SEC. 10. The general duties of the officers of this body are sufficiently defined by Masonic usage. In the absence of the first five Supreme Grand officers, the chair shall be taken by the oldest Past Supreme Grand officer, highest in rank, present, and if none such be present, then by the oldest State Grand Master present.

ARTICLE II.

SECTION 1. The State Grand Lodges shall continue their present organization, powers and duties, without any change, but at their own pleasure, except so far as may be necessary to conform to this Constitution.

SEC. 2. In any State or Territory where three or more Lodges shall have worked for one year, under regular charters, a Grand Lodge may be formed, by authority of this Supreme Grand body, or of either of the first three officers thereof.

SEC. 3. Whenever a dispensation shall have been granted a Lodge by a Supreme Grand officer, the charter shall be granted by the Supreme Grand Lodge, notwithstanding the intermediate formation of a Grand Lodge in such State or Territory.

SEC. 4. The Grand Secretaries of each Grand Lodge under this jurisdiction, shall annually communicate to each other and to the Supreme Grand Secretary, all proceedings of their respective Grand Lodges, and full lists of their officers.

ARTICLE III.

SECTION 1. No Lodge or assembly of Masons shall work within this jurisdiction without a charter or dispensation from some regular Masonic body, or from some officer thereof, duly authorized to issue the same. And all Masonic intercourse is hereby forbidden with all assemblies of Masons, and the members thereof, held without such charter or dispensation.

SEC. 2. All Subordinate Lodges, under the direct jurisdiction of this Su-

preme Grand body, shall make annual returns to the Supreme Grand Secretary, and pay their dues; and on failure thereof, steps may be taken to forfeit their charters.

SEC. 3. All Lodges, chartered by this body, shall be duly consecrated, and their officers installed by one of the first three Supreme Grand officers, or by his proxy; and until such consecration and installation, no officer elect shall have a seat in this body.

SEC. 4. This Constitution may be altered or amended, at a regular meeting only, by a vote of two-thirds of the constitutional votes present.

ARTICLE IV. [TEMPORARY.]

SECTION 1. The foregoing Constitution shall be printed, and five copies thereof transmitted, as early as possible, by the Secretary of this Convention, to each of the several Grand Lodges in the United States. If, before the first of January, 1849, sixteen of said Grand Lodges shall adopt the same, it shall be established and confirmed. If not, it shall be null and void.

SEC. 2. The Grand Lodges adopting this Constitution shall forthwith report their adoption to the President of this Convention, to the Secretary of the same, and to the Grand Master of the District of Columbia for the time being. This threefold notice is required to avoid accident from death or otherwise.

SEC. 3. The President, or in case of his death, or disability, the Secretary, and if both be dead or disabled, the said Grand Master shall, so soon as sixteen Grand Lodges have ratified this Constitution, give notice to all the Grand Lodges in the United States to meet in Convention, to organize the Supreme Grand Lodge; and all Grand Lodges sending delegations to that Convention, shall be received as subordinate to said Supreme Grand Lodge.

SEC. 4. Said Convention, if holden, shall meet in Baltimore, on the second Tuesday in July, 1849.

On motion, the report was referred to a committee consisting of Bros. Cooper, Frydenger, Tupper, Hamblin and James.

On motion of Rev. Bro. Russell,

Resolved, That a select committee of five be appointed, to whom shall be referred the subject of ascertaining what progress has been made toward establishing the Masonic Literary Institution at Richland, Holmes county; and to report, as early as practicable, what further measures it may be expedient for this Grand Lodge to adopt in accordance with the intimations of encouragement on that subject, given by the Grand Lodge at its last Annual Communication.

The committee consisted of Bros. W. Cooper, Pitman, Johnson, Tupper and Hyde.

On motion of Bro. Parker Smith,

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will proceed to the election of its officers for the ensuing year, on to-morrow at 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Secretary presented the petition of Macon Lodge, No. 40; Bro. Steele, that of Pikeville Lodge, No. 85, severally asking for a remission of dues.

Bro. Pitman introduced resolutions on behalf of Holly Springs Lodge, No. 35, and Salem, No. 45; Bro. James, for Yazoo, No. 42; Bro. Hamblin, for Madison, No. 73; Bro. W. Cooper, for East Port and Emory; Bro. R. Cooper, for Vannatta, No. 68, and Willis; Bro. Gillespie, for Mt. Moriah, No. 86; Bro. Hyde, for Scott, No. 80; Bro. Ira Carpenter, for Quitman, No. 18; and Bro.

Kopperl, for Dewitt Clinton, No. 84, all asking remission of dues, or extension of time. Bro. Williamson offered a general resolution for the relief of all Subordinate Lodges not having suitable Masonic halls, which, with the foregoing resolutions and petitions, was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. Tupper.

Resolved, That the application of all Lodges for the remission of dues, be hereafter made directly to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges, and that said committee be required to report on the same.

Samuel B. Malone, Deputy Grand Master and representative of Columbus, No. 5, appeared and took his seat.

On motion of W. Cooper, a select committee on Lodges Under Dispensation in Louisiana, was created, consisting of Bros. Malone, Cooper, Scott, Russell, Davidson, John Watts and W. B. Williamson.

The following representatives from Louisiana appeared, presented their credentials, and took their seats, to-wit :

Marion, Lodge, U. D.—B. C. Colby.
 Warren, U. D.—J. R. Hartsack.
 George Washington, U. D.—W. P. Coleman.
 Lafayette, U. D.—M. R. Dudley.
 Hiram, U. D.—D. G. Benbrook.
 The Crescent City, U. D.—W. H. Howard.
 Eureka, U. D.—J. B. Clemens.
 Quitman, U. D., Vera Cruz, Mexico—D. Nickels.

On motion, the Grand Lodge adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

TUESDAY, February 22d, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The representatives as on yesterday, with the following in addition :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—R. Stewart.
 Andrew Jackson, No. 2—E. Craig.
 Washington, No. 3—F. J. Poor and Wm. F. Easley.
 Pearl, No. 23—Charles Scott.
 Vicksburg, No. 26—Benj. Springer and R. J. McGinty.
 Oxford, No. 33—A. K. Taylor.
 Carrollton, No. 36—J. Durdin.
 Liberty, No. 37—D. Jewett.
 Pythagorean, No. 48—W. H. Curtis.
 Lafayette, No. 53—S. A. D. Steele.
 Thomas Hinds, No. 58—W. B. Johnson.
 Asylum, No. 63—E. F. Moreland.
 Silas Brown, No. 65—Thomas J. Hawkins.
 Houston, No. 67—A. Barton.
 Joseph Warren, No. 71—W. D. Robbins.
 Coffeeville, No. 83—H. Ray.
 Trinity, U. D.—Barton Evans.
 Oktibbeha, U. D.—J. T. Sims.

Prayer by the Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Master then read the following address :

Brethren, Officers and Representatives in the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi :

Since last we met, another year has concluded our obligations to its passing

moments, and our acts and deeds for that period, as Masons and as men, are registered in the archives of the Celestial Temple of the Grand Master of the Universe. Again are we met, according to the time-honored rules of our ancient and honorable Order, brethren, linked together in undying union, by the unbroken chain of our mystic tie. We are met under most auspicious circumstances, as the Grand Inquest of the Masonic fraternity for this gallant Commonwealth, to enquire for the good of and to promote by healthful legislation, the genuine interests of Free and Accepted Masonry. We have embarked in the holy cause of benevolence, commiserating the woes which are incident to our nature and our race, and which have involved our fellow men in pains and anguish. Our predecessors, in an age long past, embodied in the charter of our organization those principles which are calculated to bless and honor man. Ours is no ephemeral body, and we are met for no ordinary object.

I congratulate you, my brethren, on the brightening prospects of our fraternity. From every quarter of our common country intelligence reaches us that Masonic principles are obtaining general favor and securing a deep and permanent hold upon the public mind. Even in the cold North, where the ruthless tide of anti-masonic hostility for a time obscured the lustre of our Order, a new era has commenced, and ere long we may anticipate the full development of deserved success to the cherished supporters of our principles. Heaven grant that these brightening hopes may experience no blight; that divine charity may be enthroned in all human hearts and Masonic love pervade the world.

At the opening of this Grand Communication, it is requisite that I should briefly present a few of the prominent objects which demand your calm and dispassionate consideration. It is well known that there are many worthy brethren who have been raised to this Sublime Degree of Masonry, who are not now affiliated with any of the Subordinate Lodges. These brethren enjoy all the privileges and receive all the substantial benefits of Masonry without incurring any of the labors, responsibilities or expenses. Is it not, therefore, a question of justice that some sort of a revenue shall be collected from these non-affiliated members? The levy of an annual contribution upon all such persons could hardly operate to the injury of the Order, and may be some compensation for the benefits and immunities they enjoy. I submit it, therefore, to your consideration to enact such rules as may appear wise and prudent.

The subject of education is demanding marked and deserved attention. In some States there are Masonic Colleges, and in this State one of our Subordinate Lodges has under its control and countenance, Eureka Masonic College, located at Richland, Holmes county. As a Grand Lodge we are, as yet, committed to no scheme.

The education of the children of deceased Masons is a subject of all absorbing importance, and I doubt not that each separate Lodge makes all the provisions within its power for this worthy object. But still it would be undoubtedly wise to devise some general plan by which greater efficiency could be given to the cause of education. We may do more for Masonic principles; more to promote the happiness and welfare of our fellow man, by such a plan, than by the erection of costly halls and arraying ourselves in princely regalia. Every consideration of humanity and philanthropy demands, at our hands and from our minds, our active efforts and our earnest reflections for this cause. It is well said, by an eminent divine, "One of the best and surest methods by which to awaken a deep love of country, is for the country to educate its youth. The native born and the refugee from foreign oppression, will awaken to gratitude deep and strong all the inmost powers of the soul, to the country that teaches them the power of thought and the precious treasures of their own heaven-born natures. What so endears the home of our youth as the green sward and the babbling brook, and the dog-eared volume of our school boy days? There is a freshness, a mildness, a warmth, a permanency of attachment, in the impressions of early childhood, that survives through all time and enters into the

essence of immortality. The immortal wealth of the heart is to give its first attachments."

It is only through highly cultivated mental powers that we can be able to converse with the mighty spirits of the past. It is well said—

"Oft converse with heavenly habitants casts a beam on the outward shape,
The unpoluted temple of the mind,
And turns it by degrees to the soul's essence,
Till all be made immortal."

I cannot too strongly recommend this grave and interesting subject to your attention.

Lately, if not always, considerable inconvenience and some discrepancies have been the result of a want of a General Grand Lodge, embracing representatives from all the State Grand Lodges. The harmony, efficiency and perpetuity of the Order, would all be committed to such an organization. The incipient steps have already been taken by a National Masonic Convention, the result of whose deliberations will be submitted to you at this time for action. A plan has been formed for the establishment of a General Grand Lodge, which it will be your duty to examine with due caution and regard for the perpetuity of our ancient rights. A resolution approving or disapproving of this new body, passed by this Grand Lodge and forwarded to all other State Grand Lodges, would perhaps be all that could now be done. The subject is worthy of the calm consideration of a select committee.

In respect to the resolution, adopted at your last Annual Communication, refusing to recognize the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, because of the cumulation of the Scotch and French Rites, and denying to said Grand Lodge the jurisdiction of Ancient York Lodges, I am persuaded, that this Grand Lodge has acted with a jealous regard to the interests of the Order. Lodges of the Ancient York Rite are springing up in Louisiana and I confidently trust that this Rite will ultimately prevail.

It will now devolve upon you, Grand Representatives, to consider these and all other subjects which may require deliberation, in the spirit of an enlarged benevolence and with an enlightened regard for our cardinal principles. Assembled here for mutual conference and calm deliberation, may all your discussions and acts evince your ardent devotion to truth, justice and charity, and secure for you, approving consciences and a grateful welcome upon your return to your constituents. When you go home you will carry with you all the experience and wisdom which our deliberations and lectures shall have conferred, and it will be your grateful duty to dispense this light wherever it may be needed.

You have my devout desire for the harmony and success of your conference, and you shall have my best exertions in co-operation with your own, to secure the high objects of our convocation. And when you depart for your homes may it please the Grand Architect of the Spiritual and Eternal Lodge on high, to grant you safe return to your families and friends, and in the end of life's pilgrimage vouchsafe to you infinite rest from your mortal toils.

On motion of Most Rev. Bro. Russell, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge be tendered to the Grand Master for his interesting address, and that he be requested to furnish a copy for publication with the minutes.

2. That so much of the address as relates to Dimitted Members, be referred to a select committee of five.

3d. That so much of the address as relates to Education, be referred to the Committee on the Literary Institution.

4th. That so much of the address as relates to a General Grand Lodge, be referred to the Committee on the report of Delegates to Baltimore.

The committee provided for in second resolution, consists of the Grand Junior Warden, Grand Secretary, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Treasurer and Grand Chaplain.

Bro. Malone presented the following report of Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation in Louisiana:

The committee to whom was referred all matters relating to Lodges under dispensation in Louisiana, beg leave to report that they have examined the proceedings, by-laws and returns of the following named Lodges, and find them correct. They recommend that charters be issued to the same, to-wit :

George Washington—Represented by W. P. Coleman.

Lafayette—Represented by M. R. Dudley.

Warren—Represented by J. R. Hartsook.

Marion—Represented by B. C. Colby.

Crescent City—Represented by W. H. Howard.

Hiram—Represented by D. G. Benbrook.

Eureka—Represented by J. B. Clements.

Respectfully submitted, with the subjoined resolution, which is recommended for adoption.

SAML. B. MALONE,
WM. COOPER,
D. L. RUSSELL,
THOS. J. DAVIDSON,
J. E. WATTS,
W. B. WILLIAMSON,
CHAS. SCOTT.
Committee.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to issue charters to the Lodges in Louisiana, in accordance with the report of the Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation in that State.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

The Grand Master presented the following report of Select Committee on Grand Lecturer's report :

The committee appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication to examine the report of the Grand Lecturer, for the year 1846, beg leave to report that they have given the same due consideration, and are gratified to learn from the many flattering testimonials exhibited to your committee from the Lodges visited by him, that his work has been in every way satisfactory; but your committee regret to find that the compensation received by him has not been adequate to the labor performed. From the report under consideration, it appears that he has traveled the distance of 2056 miles, and been employed over seven months, and received only \$717 05, out of which his expenses had to be deducted, leaving the balance in no way equal to the amount of labor done; and although the Grand Lodge is under no legal obligation to Bro. Doty, they offer the following resolutions, which they hope will be adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge tender our late Grand Lecturer, Bro. J. J. Doty, thanks for the able and satisfactory manner in which he has discharged the duties of Grand Lecturer.

2. That the Grand Treasurer pay to Bro. Doty \$282 95, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

BENJ. S. TAPPAN,
IRA S. MITCHELL,
WM. COOPER,
CHARLES A. LACOSTE,
WM. P. MELLER.
Committee.

On motion of Bro. Malone, the report was received and laid upon the table. Bro. John Watts offered a resolution authorizing the appointment of one or

more suitable brethren to lecture on the first three Degrees, commencing at candle-light, during the session, which was adopted.

Bro. Davidson presented the following report from the Committee on Accounts:

The Committee on Accounts would respectfully report that they have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, and find them correct. They have also audited, and recommend for allowance, the following accounts: T. A. S. Doniphan, for printing receipts, \$12; S. G. Risk, for charters, \$35; F. & J. Beaumont, for stationery, \$4 15; W. H. Fox, for stationery, \$6; R. Elward, for stationery, 30 cents; John Wells, for repairs, 70 cents; R. Stewart & Co., for desks and cases, \$118; total, \$176 15.

Your committee would further recommend that economy be practiced by the Grand Lodge, as well as all the Subordinate Lodges under this Jurisdiction, that a fund may be raised for charitable purposes.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. J. DAVIDSON,
J. A. WILLIAMSON,
JAS. GILLESPIE,
W. G. RUSSELL,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to, and the accounts reported upon ordered to be paid.

On motion of Bro. Malone, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Subordinate Lodges be instructed to call the attention of said Lodges more particularly to the Grand and Permanent Regulations in relation to conferring degrees on individuals residing out of their jurisdiction, as well as such individuals as may have taken one or more degrees in other States.

Bro. R. G. Steele offered the following:

Resolved, That the Committee on Subordinate Lodges be instructed to enquire into the propriety and legality of withdrawing petitions for initiations after they have been received into the Lodge, and report the same to this Grand Lodge.

The resolution was not adopted.

Bro. Malone presented the following supplemental report of the Committee on Lodges under Dispensation in Louisiana:

The committee having taken into consideration the peculiar situation of the Lodges working under dispensations in the State of Louisiana, beg leave, in view of the many difficulties said Lodges have had to encounter, their extraordinary expenses in fitting up their halls and their heavy disbursements for charitable purposes, during the epidemic which swept over the city of New Orleans last summer, to report the following resolution:

Resolved, That said Lodges be released from all dues to this Grand Lodge.

SAML. B. MALONE, Chairman.

Bro. Williamson offered the following:

Resolved, That the Constitution of this Grand Lodge be amended by striking out section 3, of article 2, which provides for the appointing of a Deputy Grand Master by the Grand Master.

On motion, the resolution was laid upon the table, and thereby the Grand Lodge deemed it inexpedient thus to amend the Constitution.

Bro. Williamson offered the following:

Resolved, That the 8th resolution of the General and Permanent Regulations

be amended by striking out all after the word "permit," and insert the following: "Any brother to vote until he shall have taken three degrees."

2. That the 8th resolution of the General and Permanent Regulations be amended by striking out all after the word "Lodge," in the 3d line of said resolution.

On motion, the resolutions were laid upon the table.

Bro. Parker Smith presented the following report of Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation:

The Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation, beg leave to report that they have examined the returns, by-laws and minutes of the following named Lodges, to-wit: Emory, United Friends, Prairie, Willis, Eastport, Oktibbeha, and Philadelphia, and find them generally correct. The committee recommend the following corrections in the by-laws of Philadelphia Lodge: From section 1, article 4, strike out "at stated meetings." From section 1, article 5, strike out "unless the Lodge is fully satisfied that the same will be punctually paid when required." From section 2, article 6, strike out "Expulsion."

From the by-laws of Oktibbeha Lodge, strike out, "and be reported to the Grand Lodge as rejected."

The Delegate from Prairie Lodge has informed the committee that his Lodge has adopted the by-laws of Aberdeen Lodge, which have already received the approval of the Grand Lodge.

We recommend that charters be granted to all the aforesaid Lodges.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

PARKER SMITH, Chairman.

The report was, on motion, received and agreed to.

Bro. R. J. Coopender offered the following as an amendment to the Constitution:

Resolved, That the 8th section of the 1st article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, be amended by striking out "City of Natchez," and inserting "City of Jackson."

On motion, the amendment was laid upon the table, and having received no further action, the Grand Lodge thereby deemed it inexpedient thus to amend the Constitution.

On motion of Bro. Coleman, the returns of Quitman Lodge, U. D., at Vera Cruz, Mexico, were referred to a special committee of three. Bros. Coleman, Grand Senior and Junior Wardens composed said committee.

On motion of Bro. R. G. Steele, Bro. Barton was added to Committee on Subordinate Lodges, and Bros. Steele, Edmondson and Ray had leave of absence granted them for remainder of the Communication.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, February 22, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Representatives as in the morning with several Past Grand Officers and Past Masters.

The Grand Master presented a set of resolutions adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Public Schools at Vicksburg, acknowledging the receipt of the

appropriation made last year by the Grand Lodge to those schools, and tendering the grateful acknowledgments of the Board on behalf of themselves and the City of Vicksburg for the same.

The resolutions were ordered to be filed, on motion of Bro. Bonner.

A petition for a new Lodge at Onslow, Holmes county, was presented, but on motion of Bro. Mitchell, the prayer of the petitioners was rejected.

The Grand Master made a verbal report that Ancient York Lodge, No. 28, had surrendered its charter, and had appointed an individual to settle its affairs.

A petition from some of the old members of Coleman Lodge, No. 29, asking for a restoration of the charter of said Lodge to them, was presented, and, on motion, the charter was ordered to be restored, on the condition precedent, that the indebtedness of said Lodge, to the Grand Lodge, and for the jewels, etc. be paid.

A petition for a new Lodge at St. Josephs, Louisiana, properly recommended was received and, on motion, a dispensation was ordered to be issued to the petitioners, and that the Lodge be called St. Josephs.

Bro. Coleman presented the following report of Select Committee on Returns of Quitman Lodge, U. D., at Vera Cruz, Mexico:

The undersigned Committee to which was referred the returns, etc., of Quitman Lodge, U. D., in the City of Vera Cruz, Mexico, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to submit the following report: that they have examined the By-Laws and returns of said Lodge, and find the returns correct, and the By-Laws within the ancient landmarks of the Order.

The Committee have received no records of said Lodge nor any transcript of the same, but would respectfully represent from the statement of Bro. Nickels (the delegate) in relation thereto, that it was utterly impossible for such transcript to accompany him, the Lodge being of the opinion that they could have no transportation until within four days previous to the arrival of Bro. Nickels, in Vera Cruz, from the city of Mexico, on his way to the United States, then it was too late for such transcript to be furnished. For the above reasons your Committee would beg leave to leave to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to issue a charter for said Lodge.

Your Committee would further represent that said Lodge instructed its delegate to have a competent brother appointed by the Grand Lodge, to instal their officers and lecture the Lodge. That the Grand Lodge should incur no expense whatever by said appointment, but, on the contrary, they would pay the expense and compensate said brother for his time and services.

In accordance with said request, and on account of the Masonic ability and great trust reposed in Bro. Hartsock, Past Grand Lecturer of Iowa, the Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge authorize and appoint Bro. Hartsock to visit said Lodge at the City of Vera Cruz, instal the officers, instruct the members, and do and perform all other acts in relation thereto, within the ancient landmarks of Masonry.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. P. COLEMAN,
I. S. MITCHELL,
WM. COOPER,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Sims offered the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge, at its present session, elect a Grand Lectu-

rer to lecture the several Subordinate Lodges of this State for the ensuing year.

On motion, the resolution was rejected.

Bro. Malone asked the following question of the Grand Master :

Has a Lodge the right to try a non-affiliated Mason for unmaasonic conduct, committed while residing within the limits of said Lodge, after he has removed out of its jurisdiction, as well as out of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge under which said Lodge is working?

The Grand Master answered in the affirmative, and his opinion was sustained by a vote of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Pitman offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge divide the State into eight Masonic districts, and that the Grand Master appoint eight District Deputy Grand Masters, whose duty it shall be to qualify themselves in the work and lectures of the first three degrees of Masonry, and said Deputy Grand Masters when called on shall instruct the Lodges within their several Masonic districts.

2. That said District Deputy Grand Masters be required first to assemble together and lecture each other, until they produce uniformity among themselves, before they lecture any of the Lodges.

On motion of Bro. Smith, the resolutions were laid upon the table and made the order for 3 o'clock, P. M., to-morrow.

On motion of Bro. Nickels,

Ordered, That Quitman Lodge, at Vera Cruz, be numbered "96."

On motion of Bro. Simms, the name of Oktibbeha Lodge was changed to that of "Abert."

Bro. Wm. Cooper presented the following report of Committee on Education :

"The subject of education is demanding marked and deserved attention.

"In some States there are Masonic colleges, and in this State one of our Subordinate Lodges has under its control and countenance Eureka Masonic College, located at Richland, Holmes county. As a Grand Lodge we are as yet committed to no scheme. The education of the children of deceased Masons is a subject of all absorbing importance, and I doubt not, each Lodge makes all the provision within its power for this worthy object, but still it would undoubtedly be wise to devise some general plan by which efficiency can be given to the cause of education.

"We may do more for Masonic principles, more to promote the happiness and welfare of our fellow men, by such a plan, than by the erection of costly halls and arraying ourselves in princely regalia."

Such is the language and such the sentiments of the Grand Master in his opening address; and the Committee on that part of his address which relates to education, have thought it so important and appropriate as to be not only worthy of repetition but of being adopted as the sentiments of this Grand Lodge, and beg leave to submit the following resolution for adoption :

Resolved, That we highly approve these sentiments and commend them to the marked attention of all the fraternity in this jurisdiction.

W. COOPER, Chairman.

The report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Cooper presented, also, the following report of Committee on Literary Institution at Richland :

The Select Committee appointed to ascertain what progress has been made towards "establishing the Masonic Literary Institution at Richland, Holmes county, and to report as early as practicable," beg leave most respectfully to report : That they have had the subject under consideration, and bestowed upon

it as much attention as the limited time, divided, as it has been with other duties, permitted. Your Committee, judging from the results of the wonder-working spirit of Freemasonry, which is abroad in the land as sustaining by its wisdom, supporting by its strength, and adorning by its beauty, those monuments of benevolence, the Masonic colleges in Missouri and Kentucky, were prepared to expect highly pleasing and flattering results, from the interest evinced by the fraternity of Eureka and Lexington Lodges, at the last Grand Annual Communication of this body, as well as from the indications of confidence and favor then bestowed on the enterprise by the Masonic family in the State of Mississippi, but they were not prepared to see a college edifice, in the beauty and grandeur of just architectural proportions, erected by Masonic munificence, actually occupied as such, duly chartered by the Legislature of the State, with a body of corporators "with hearts resolved and hands prepared" to carry out the objects of their creation, in a manner to excite the surprise and challenge the gratitude of every educated mind in the State. Yet such is the fact. A circular, issued by order of the Board of Trustees of that institution, announces to the public that "by the liberality of the Masonic fraternity, a site has been secured and a large and beautiful brick building erected thereon," etc. And by an act of incorporation, passed by our State Legislature, and approved by his Excellency, the Governor, the gratifying truth is presented to our minds, that the good people of our State, through their representatives, are lavishing their fond warm smiles upon the lovely child of Masonic maternity and almost ready to adopt it as their own. Your Committee will not, therefore, permit the dimmest shade to flit across the bright field of their vision that any true friend of the great cause of education will, or can, look with coldness or indifference on an enterprise which promises, in a short time, to scatter over the whole face of our country the precious seeds which are to yield a harvest to be garnered in the skies. They have seen that by the concentrated and well directed energies of the two Lodges above named, and one Royal Arch Chapter, that a nucleus has been formed, around which those who believe that Mississippi presents as fair a field as any other portion of our country for the display of Masonic effort in carrying out the aim and design of all great benevolent associations, may and will collect! Who, that has contemplated Freemasonry in her omnipotency for good to man when going forth on her messages of mercy and love, can set limits to her mighty influence! We have seen what other States have done through her agency. Shall we fear that, because Mississippi is a younger sister in this great Confederacy with a population comparatively sparse, the Masonic heart beats with a feebler pulse or rolls a less warm and genial current to those objects which need her life-giving principle! No, verily, no!

Your committee will not, however, permit the brilliancy of the prospects, of the not far distant success of this enterprise, to cause them to lose sight of the path which leads to its consummation. They at one time thought of recommending to the consideration of this Grand Lodge to take Eureka Masonic College under its control, and depend for its entire support on that source. This thought, however, was entertained but for a moment. The almost complete exhaustion of the funds at the last Grand Annual Communication for objects justly demanding them, and the very small amount which will remain in the treasury after defraying the current expenses, admonishing them that such a course would be impolitic, if not unwise, at this time.

From documents placed before the committee, they are fully authorized to state that the College has gone into operation in a manner highly satisfactory to its patrons, and the Board of Trustees have expressed their entire and unqualified confidence in those who have the immediate government and instruction of the pupils. That Board has not only expressed its own satisfaction and confidence in the present arrangement of the faculty; but they, also, add the assurance "that the community in general, and the Masonic fraternity in particular, will find all reasonable expectations fully realized, both in regard to discipline and instruction, and successful devotion to the great object they have

in view, viz: To establish an institution of high order and worthy of the confidence and patronage of the fraternity."

With a view, therefore, to second their efforts, your committee respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, to-wit:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi will extend such pecuniary assistance to Eureka Masonic College as may be in its power, consistently with other demands upon its bounty.

2d. That this Grand Lodge have full confidence in the existing Board of Trustees, as named in the charter of said College, and that they and the institution under their charge, are hereby recommended to the confidence and patronage of the whole Masonic fraternity.

3d. That said Board of Trustees, and their successors, are respectfully requested to report to this Grand Lodge, annually, the condition of said institution.

4th. That the sum of five hundred dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated, out of the Education Fund, to Eureka Masonic College.

WM. COOPER, Chairman.

On motion of Bro. Coopender, the report was received, and on motion of Bro. Malone, it was laid upon the table and made the order for three o'clock, P. M., to-morrow.

On motion of Bro. James Carpenter,

Resolved, That Monroe Lodge, No. 39, be permitted to change the place of meeting for the future, from their Lodge room in the village of Monroe, to their new Masonic Hall, five miles west of Monroe, all being in the county of Perry.

On motion of Bro. D. R. Jones,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to sell the jewels originally belonging to Fitz Lodge, No. 30, in Madison county, to Scott Lodge, No. 80, for a fair compensation.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 7 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, February 22, 5848, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Past Grand Officers, Past Masters and Representatives as heretofore.

On motion, Bro. Champlain, a blind man, addressed the Grand Lodge on the subject of an institution for the blind at Jackson, in this State.

Bro. Scott moved to appropriate two hundred and fifty dollars to be expended by Bro. Champlain toward the expense of educating four blind children of Masonic parentage, which motion was adopted; and on motion of Bro. Malone, the appropriation was ordered to be paid out of the educational fund.

On motion of Bro. Coleman,

Resolved, That Bro. Scott be and is hereby appointed a committee, to report to the next Grand Annual Communication, what may have been done by this Grand Lodge during the year for educating the poor blind children of Master Masons.

Bro. W. T. Martin presented his credentials as proxy for Bro. R. G. Steele of Pikeville, No. 85.

Bro. Frydenger presented report of Committee on Complaints and Appeals: The Committee on Complaints and Appeals respectfully report that they have had under consideration the appeal of Daniel McDaniel against Madison, Edwards, and deeming it inexpedient from the nature of the case, as well as the absence of testimony to maintain the appeal, to take any action on the case except to recommend that the same be dismissed.

They have also considered the communication of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, relative to the expulsion of W. H. Estes by Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, and the confirmation of the same by the Grand Lodge at its annual communication in 1845, and recommend for adoption the following resolutions, to-wit:

Resolved, By the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, that, after mature deliberation on the communication of the Grand Lodge of Alabama, relative to the expulsion of W. H. Estes, and a careful examination of all the facts leading to said expulsion, and with a view of sustaining the true principles, character and usefulness of our honorable Order, this Grand Lodge re-approves the act of expulsion by Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, and adheres to the former action confirming the same.

2d. That the Grand Secretary communicate a copy of the above resolution to the Grand Lodge of the State of Alabama.

They have had also under consideration the appeal of G. W. Ernsweiler, from Camden Lodge, No. 74, and after a careful examination of all the evidence for and against the appellant, they are of the opinion that the facts of the case are not such as to demand his expulsion, and therefore recommend that the act of expulsion of said Ernsweiler, by Camden Lodge, No. 74, be reversed; and inasmuch as it appears to your committee that the appellant deserves some punishment for harsh and indecorous language concerning the officers and members of Camden Lodge, No. 74, they recommend that said Ernsweiler be reprimanded by the Grand Master in open Lodge.

The committee have also considered the appeal of Samuel H. Levy, from Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, and after an examination of the testimony, recommend that the decision of suspension by Aberdeen Lodge, be confirmed.

They have had also under consideration the appeal of Jeremiah Callahan, from Grand Gulf Lodge, No. 41, and recommend a confirmation of the expulsion.

They have had also under consideration the case of Thomas J. Johnston, Past Grand Junior Warden, who was expelled by this Grand Lodge at the last Annual Communication, and to whom a rehearing was granted, as he had no notice of the trial, after investigating all the circumstances connected with the case, recommend a reconsideration of said act of expulsion and the following resolution for adoption:

Resolved, That Thomas J. Johnston be suspended from all the rights and benefits of Masonry until said Thomas J. Johnston liquidate the claims held against him by Lafayette and Wilson Lodges, and the brethren who petitioned for Taylor Lodge, and on payment of the same, that he be restored to all the privileges of the Order.

The appeal of G. W. Rodgers, from Vannatta Lodge, has also been considered. The evidence submitted does not enable the committee to recommend any decisive action on the part of the Grand Lodge, and they therefore advise that the subject be referred to said Lodge for further action.

In the investigation of the case of C. H. Sanders, appellant from Greensboro Lodge, No. 49, they find that the entire difficulty was dependent upon his intemperate habits, and as your committee have some reason to believe that there has been a reformation of the brother since his removal to Tennessee, they recommend a reconsideration of the case to said Lodge.

Respectfully submitted.

T. C. TUPPER,
J. A. FRYDINGER,
C. TULLIS,
J. G. HALL,
J. O. LUSHER,
Committee.

Bro. Simms moved to recommit the case of *McDaniel vs. Edwards*, to the committee, with instructions, but the motion was lost.

On motion the report was received and agreed to, and the recommendations ordered to be carried into effect.

The resolution offered by Bro. John Watts, and adopted, providing for lectures every evening during the Communication, was reconsidered and rejected.

Bro. Simms offered the following :

Resolved, That the fee for a charter granted to Abert Lodge, be remitted.

The resolution was lost.

Bro. Lawson Boothe presented the following report of the Committee on Unfinished Business :

The Committee on Unfinished Business submit the following report :

There are two proposed amendments to the Constitution of the Grand Lodge which were adopted at the last, and which require final action of the Grand Lodge at the present Grand Annual Communication, to-wit :

1st. Amend the third section of article third, by adding, "except ministers of the Gospel on whom the degrees have been conferred without charge."

2. Amend 3d section of article 3d, by adding "Lodges working Under Dispensations not being regularly constituted and not entitled by the Constitutions of Ancient Freemasonry to representation in the Grand Lodge, that the fees paid by the said Lodges for their dispensations and charters, be considered ample compensation to the Grand Lodge for the privileges said Lodges enjoy while under dispensation, and that hereafter they shall not be required to pay annual dues to this Grand Lodge."

Your Committee respectfully recommend the rejection of the first and the adoption of the second proposed amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

LAWSON BOOTHE, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and the vote being taken separately, resulted in the rejection of the first amendment and the adoption of the second amendment. The report then, on motion, was agreed to.

On motion of Rev. E. L. Russell,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge, by declining to elect a Grand Lecturer, does not design, even indirectly, to sanction the practice of itinerant lecturing without the authority of the Grand Master, a practice eminently calculated to produce disorder and confusion in work and degrade the high duty of communicating Masonic light into a matter of mere private speculation.

On motion of Bro. John Watts,

Resolved, That the Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge be installed immediately after the orders of the day, for to-morrow evening, are disposed of, and that this Grand Lodge be then closed, and that the next Grand Annual Communication be held on the third Monday in January next.

On motion of Bro. Tupper,

Resolved, That the vote agreeing to so much of the report of the Committee on Complaints and Appeals as relates to the case of George W. Rogers, be reconsidered and that the same be again referred to the same Committee.

Bro. Russell offered the following :

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare a draft of a new Constitution for the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, to be presented at the next Annual Communication.

The Grand Lodge refused to adopt the resolution.

The Grand Lodge adjourned until to-morrow, 9 o'clock, A. M.

WEDNESDAY, February 23, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Representatives same as on yesterday, with several Past Grand Officers and Past Masters.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

Bro. Pitman offered the following report of Committee on Subordinate Lodges:

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report that they have examined returns, to the present Communication, of the several Subordinate Lodges and find them correct, with the exception of a want of uniformity in the manner of making out returns and such other exceptions as are hereinafter specially mentioned:

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 16, 17, 18, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 46, 47, 48, 49, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73, 74, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86.

Greensboro Lodge state on their returns, that their dues will be forwarded by the first opportunity. Your Committee recommend that three months time be allowed them to forward the same.

Grand Gulf Lodge, No. 41, having made no return of their Officers for the present year, should be required to forward a list of the same, to the Grand Secretary as soon as practicable.

Your Committee respectfully recommend that the sum of four dollars be allowed to Holly Springs Lodge, No. 35, for four degrees, conferred gratuitously on persons who were volunteers in the Mississippi Regiment to Mexico.

The Committee furthermore report with regard to Monroe Lodge, No. 39, that from statements made to them, they deem said Lodge excusable for their failure, in not making their annual report for the year 1846, and the Committee would, therefore, recommend said Lodge to the favorable consideration of the Grand Lodge.

From facts before this Committee, they would respectfully recommend that four months be allowed to Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, for the payment of their dues for the year 1847.

From Coffeeville Lodge, No. 83, this Committee find but a partial and imperfect report for the last year, and they recommend that full returns be made by said Lodge to the Grand Secretary as soon as possible.

The Committee report unfavorably on all applications from Subordinate Lodges for the remission of dues by the Grand Lodge, excepting on the application of Macon Lodge, No. 40, which, for peculiar reasons as set forth in said petition, they recommend the remission of dues to said Lodge for the year 1847.

In consideration of the funds expended for educational purposes by Holly Springs Lodge, No. 35, the Committee recommend the petition of said Lodge, for remission of dues, to the favorable consideration of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee have received information that Houston Lodge, No. 67, have violated the regulations of the Grand Lodge, by allowing the withdrawal of a petition after the same had been balloted for, rejected, then reconsidered—and would respectfully call the attention of the Grand Lodge to the subject.

Facts have been presented to the Committee that Eureka Lodge, No. 61, and the Lodges in the city of Jackson, have violated the General and Permanent Regulations of the Grand Lodge, in conferring degrees upon persons residing without the limits of their jurisdiction and without certificates or permission from the Lodges claiming jurisdiction over them. On this subject the Committee have subjoined a resolution which they hope will be adopted.

The Committee would recommend that Monroe Lodge, No. 39, strike out of their By-Laws 2d section of article 8. They approve of the By-Laws of Pontotoc Lodge, No. 81, the revised By-Laws of Madison, No. 73; Pearl, No. 23;

Aberdeen, No. 32; Sterling, No. 54; Vicksburg, No. 26, and Silas Brown, No. 65. They recommend that the 6th section of 6th article in the By-Laws of Joseph Warren Lodge, No. 71, which relates to the publications of expulsions before the confirmation by the Grand Lodge, be stricken out.

In conclusion, the Committee submit the following resolutions for adoption:

1. *Resolved*, That Quitman Lodge, No. 18; Yazoo, No. 42; Scott, No. 80, and Vannatta, No. 68, be allowed twelve months for the payment of their respective dues.

2. That the violations of the General and Permanent Regulations of the Grand Lodge by Eureka Lodge, No. 61, Pearl, No. 23, and Silas Brown, No. 65, in conferring degrees upon persons without their respective jurisdictions, without certificates or permission from Lodges claiming jurisdiction over them, meet with the unqualified disapproval of the Grand Lodge.

3d. That all the recommendations of this Committee, as embodied in their report, be adopted by the Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN PITMAN, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received.

Bro. Russell moved to strike out of the report so much as related to Eureka Lodge, No. 61, but the motion did not prevail.

The report was then agreed to.

Bro. Frydenger presented the following report of Committee on Complaints and Appeals:

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals have had further evidence submitted to them in the case of Daniel McDaniel's appeal from DeKalb Lodge, No. 64, wherein D. McDaniel is prosecutor and Madison Edwards defendant, and after due consideration of said evidence are of opinion that said case should not be dismissed, as recommended in their first report, but should be remanded to DeKalb Lodge for further and final action.

J. A. FRYDINGER,
T. C. TUPPER,
J. O. LUSHER,
C. TULLIS,
J. G. HALL.

Committee.

On motion of Bro. Malone, the report was received.

Bro. Watts moved to re-commit the report to the committee, with instructions to strike out DeKalb Lodge and insert Evergreen, but the motion not prevailing, the report was agreed to.

Bro. Tupper presented the following report of Committee on Complaints and Appeals:

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals beg leave to report that they have had under consideration the appeal of George W. Rodgers, from Vannatta Lodge, No. 68, on its re-commitment to your committee, and after a careful consideration of the testimony adduced before us, recommend that the decision of said Lodge expelling said Rodgers be confirmed.

That they have also considered the appeal of John W. Mann from Marion Lodge, No. 62, and recommend that the decision of said Lodge be confirmed.

And that they have had also under consideration the appeal of Jeremiah Cooper, from Carrollton Lodge, No. 36, and after an examination of the testimony, recommend that the case be remanded to Carrollton Lodge, No. 36, with instructions to re-consider the act of expulsion against said Cooper, and grant him a new trial, and that upon such trial the decision of said Lodge shall be final.

Which is respectfully submitted.

T. C. TUPPER, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Parker Smith presented the following report of Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation:

The Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation beg leave to report that they have examined the returns of Belmont and Trinity Lodges, and find them correct. The committee would recommend an extension of time to sixty days for the payment of the dues of Belmont Lodge—and that charters be issued to said Lodges.

The petition of Bro. John W. Brown and others, of Utica, Hinds county, for a new Lodge at that place to be called Utica, and of Samuel Henderson and others, of Richmond, Itawamba county, to be called Richmond, being in form, your committee recommend the granting the prayers of the petitioners.

Owing to the murder of Bro. W. S. Walker, by the Mexicans, near Saltillo, who had the returns, etc., of St. John's Lodge in charge, only partial returns have been received from that Lodge. It is supposed that the papers are still in the hands of the Mexicans, or have been destroyed,* your committee, advise such a course towards St. John's Lodge by the Grand Lodge as will enable them to prosecute their benevolent enterprise, and thereby soften and mitigate the severities incident to their present position, they, therefore recommend a renewal of the dispensation to the brethren composing said Lodge, free of the usual charges.

A letter from Bro. Mason Pilcher, of Franklin, La., has been considered by your committee, in which he tenders to this Grand Lodge the dispensation which was granted them last year. They refuse to work under any warrant whatever until the matters in controversy between the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and this Grand Lodge shall be satisfactorily arranged. Your committee, without going into any argument, would advise the reception of the dispensation and the return of their funds, with the exception of the Grand Secretary's fee.

The committee recommend that the brethren of the First Regiment Lodge be relieved from making any further returns to the Grand Lodge, for the reasons given in a communication from Bro. W. B. Spinks, which they report back and recommend that it be filed.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. SMITH, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to, and the recommendations of the committee ordered to be carried into effect.

On motion of Bro. Tupper, Bro. Ernsweiler, in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee on Complaints and Appeals, was introduced and reprimanded by the Grand Master in open Lodge.

The Grand Lodge then proceeded to the election of the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows:

M.: W.: CHARLES SCOTT.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.: T. C. TUPPER.....	Grand Senior Warden.
JOHN WATTS.....	Grand Junior Warden.
REV. C. K. MARSHALL	Grand Chaplain.
N. W. CAMP.....	Grand Orator.
GEORGE I. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
J. T. SIMMS.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
T. J. DAVIDSON.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
WM. T. MARTIN.....	Grand Marshal.
JOHN PITMAN.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
D. R. JONES.....	Grand Pursuivant.
J. A. HUNSTABLE.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

On motion of Bro. Hall,

* Since the adjournment of the Grand Lodge, full returns have been received.
G. S.

Resolved, That a sufficient number of chairs and tables be procured to accommodate hereafter all the delegates to this Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. P. Smith,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to have published four hundred copies of the proceedings of this Grand Annual Communication, and that he distribute the same as usual.

On motion of Bro. Scott,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the Grand Master, B. S. Tappan, for the able and dignified manner with which he has presided over the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Malone offered the following :

Resolved, That the Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge, not Representatives of Subordinate Lodges, be allowed the same compensation as the Representatives of Lodges where they reside.

On motion, the resolution was laid upon the table.

On motion of Bro. James Carpenter,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge require Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, to hand over to Monroe Lodge, No. 39, successor to Leaf River Lodge, No. 19, all the effects of Leaf River Lodge that may at this time be in the possession of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, when Monroe Lodge, No. 39, shall have refunded to Olive Branch, No. 34, any moneys that she may have expended for Leaf River, No. 19.

Bro. Spann moved to reconsider the vote on the resolution offered by Bro. Russell, for the formation of a new Constitution, but the Grand Lodge refused to reconsider.

Bro. Pitman presented the following report of Committee on Subordinate Lodges :

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges, beg leave further to report, that they have examined the returns of Salem Lodge, No. 45, and Louisville, No. 75, and find them correct.

They recommend that time, until the next Annual Communication, be allowed to Salem Lodge, No. 45, Vicksburg, No. 26, Philadelphia, No. 93, Trinity, No. 88, and Willis, No. 92.

Your Committee also recommend that part of their last report be amended so as to read "next Annual Communication," where time was allowed to certain Lodges to pay their dues in "twelve months."

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. PITMAN, Chairman.

On motion the report was received and agreed to.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, February 23, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met, pursuant to adjournment.

The Grand Secretary, as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made a verbal report, that no time had been allowed, since the commencement of the present Communication, for him to submit the report, which he had prepared, to the Committee. Whereupon, without being read, the re-

port, on motion of Bro. Malone, was referred to a select committee, consisting of the Grand Master elect, Deputy Grand Master elect, Bro. Lacoste, and the Grand Secretary, with instructions to select, for publication with the proceedings, such portion of the same, as may be deemed advisable to publish, and to prepare an address to the other Grand Lodges of the United States, and to the brethren generally, in justification of the action of this Grand Lodge in refusing longer to recognize the body calling itself the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, as a regular Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, and of exercising the right which legitimately flowed therefrom, of granting dispensations and charters to Ancient York Masons in that State.

Report of Committee on Foreign Communications :

By a resolution adopted at the last Grand Annual Communication the Grand Secretary was required to "peruse carefully all the proceedings, documents and other papers, emanating from Masonic bodies in correspondence with this Grand Lodge as the same may be received by him and from the whole to prepare a report to be submitted to the Committee on Foreign Communications, consisting of the Secretary, Junior and Senior Wardens and Grand Treasurer, of which the Grand Secretary is the permanent Chairman, and if approved by the said Committee, to the said Grand Lodge. ●

The Grand Secretary states that he has perused carefully the Foreign Correspondence, including the published proceedings of the following named Grand Lodges, to-wit :

Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Tennessee, Missouri, Kentucky, Michigan, Wisconsin and Iowa for the years 1846-7 ; Rhode Island for 1844-5-6 ; New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, District of Columbia, Illinois and Ohio, for 1845-6-7 ; Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and Texas for 1845-6 ; Florida and Arkansas, for 1846 ; and the proceedings and reports published by the body calling itself the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, with several special communications from different quarters. Nothing has been received from the States of New Jersey and Delaware.

The strongest impression upon the mind on finishing the examination of the foreign correspondence of this Grand Lodge for the years mentioned, is that of the general prosperity of our ancient and honorable Institution throughout the world. Although this Grand Lodge is not in direct communication with the Grand Lodges of the other hemisphere, yet by means of the foreign correspondence of other Grand Lodges of the United States, we have not only evidence of its universality, but of a great and increasing interest on the subject of Freemasonry manifested by all classes of men in every country. We find the Craft assembled in regular Lodges in many parts of Europe, Asia, Africa, and Oceania as well as in America, and we find brethren in every place upon the habitable portions of the globe, and, wherever found, animated beyond all former precedent, by the truth and importance of our principles as illustrated by the amelioration of the condition of mankind where they have been faithfully disseminated and practiced upon by the Craft.

If the rapid acquisition of initiates were a certain criterion of the prosperity of Ancient Craft Masonry, then we of the Great Valley might exhibit our thousand Lodges and thirty thousand workmen with heartfelt pride and satisfaction ; but although we hope, nay, believe, that the materials have been carefully selected, the mortar well tempered and in their intimate union exhibit the Master's skill, we must not shut our eyes to the fact, that in this very apparent prosperity, may be found the seeds of a decay as rapid as the growth. Our Eastern brethren, startled by the sudden appearance of a magnificent temple in the very midst of the forests, where but the day before not a stone of the foundation was laid, almost believe it to be the work of the Genii of the Lamp which another son may find spirited away and not the solid Masonry of

craftsmen, whose instructions and designs were perfected on Mt. Moriah, and they kindly warn us of what they deem approaching danger. We would be unwise to disregard the caution, and although the increased stringency of our regulations and increased severity of our discipline show that we have already seen the danger and have not been unmindful of the trusts committed to our care, still, greater vigilance may not be amiss in guarding our portals against the admission of the immoral, and those who seek our altars to aid themselves to mount the political and not the moral ladder, or from other equally unworthy motive, yet, as we are not all young Masons, and as all of our original and many of our present Masters were enlightened by the Orientals of the older States, and as they concentrate, as it were, in our Lodges the light emanating from all the East, we trust that there is less danger to be apprehended than we or our brethren imagine. Your committee would, however, recommend the strict enforcement of a rule, that a petition for initiation and for each advancement of the candidate shall lie over, for consideration, at least one month, and that no action should be had upon such petitions except at regular meetings of the Lodges, and that no case shall be considered as one of emergency except when the candidate is about to remove permanently from the State. Many of the Grand Lodges have recently determined to adhere rigidly to this rule. The Grand Master of Virginia says, "the impropriety of the opposite practice is evident without comment." The Grand Lodge of Florida expresses the opinion, in which your committee agree, that, "no Grand Officer or Grand Lodge has a right to dispense with any ancient usage or constitution of Masonry," and declares this to be one of the Ancient Landmarks, which cannot be changed by any authority. The Grand Lodge of Ohio also condemns the rapidity with which candidates are advanced generally, as a violation of an ancient rule. The Grand Lodge of Hanover, it is said, permits visitors to vote upon questions of initiation, upon the plea, not without weight, that the candidate is not only admitted to membership in the Lodge, but to the privileges of Freemasonry generally, in which all have a direct interest. This rule would have a good effect in cities, where candidates select their Lodge, well knowing that they would not be received into any other. There are evils to be apprehended in giving this privilege to visitors, though it might, perhaps, be sufficiently guarded. It is, however, only mentioned here as one among the many evidences of the increased care everywhere manifested for the well-being of the Institution.

TESTS.

The application to candidates of new tests, by the Grand Lodges of Prussia, Tennessee, Ohio, etc., is a subject of great importance. Illinois, which gave birth to one of these illegitimates, has discarded it, or, at least, holds the question of acknowledgement under consideration, but unfortunately, no doubt was expressed, until North Carolina had praised its comeliness and adopted it as her own. Prussia closes her door to all who are not christians. Tennessee, by her own resolution, requires a belief in a future state of rewards and punishments. Illinois "is clearly of the opinion that a distinct avowal in the divine authenticity of the Holy Scriptures, should be required of every one who is admitted to the privileges of Masonry; and that a denial of the same is an offence against the Institution, calling for exemplary discipline." Tennessee quotes, without disapproving, and North Carolina commends this language! To know that these tests are new, and were unknown but even a few years ago, is sufficient to condemn them, whether we consider them harmless or their tendency good or evil. Admit either of them, and the spade among our emblems will be found not without its use, for Ancient Freemasonry must have its grave. But it is not our intention to discuss the question here; and we will merely now throw our opinion into the scale with that of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut; which is "that they are pained to learn that some of the Grand Lodges of Europe have instituted a religious test, by decreeing that no person shall be admitted to the privileges of Freemasonry, who has not been baptized into the

christian faith! This we feel we cannot condemn in too strong terms. It has been the peculiar boast of Masonry, that within the walls of a Lodge may be gathered the Christian, the Jew, the Mohammedan and the Pagan, whose adoption of the principles of the Order enables them to dwell together in unity, with no sectarian or national jealousy to disturb the harmony of their social intercourse. By the decree alluded to above, the universality of Masonic sympathy and charity is destroyed, and the Institution placed on a footing with the more grovelling and sordid organizations of the world."

LANDMARKS.

Some of our sister Grand Lodges have commented upon the use of the word "adjournment," taking of the "yeas and nays" and appealing from the decision of the Chair, in the proceedings of the Grand Lodges. Though we might well question whether the adoption of ordinary legislative rules in ordinary legislative proceedings, would be in violation of any of the principles, or the removal of a landmark of Masoury, for the information of our brethren, it is well enough to say, that we do not deem it proper to use in our published proceedings, more of the peculiar language of the Lodge-room than is indispensably necessary. Hence the use of "adjournment," etc.; and if "appeals" are mentioned, it is not to be presumed that the Grand Lodge claims the right to appeal, but that it is allowed by courtesy of the Grand Master, and generally at his own suggestion, from diffidence in his own or out of deference to the opinion of the Grand Lodge; but even this is not considered allowable in the Subordinate Lodges.

Information and instruction in the Masonic work and lectures, when conveyed in a proper spirit, are at all times desirable; but our sister of New York sometimes indulges in a dictatorial tone, which destroys the good effect of what, under other circumstances, might be considered wise counsels. She having exhibited rather an exuberance of self-esteem—a growth natural to large cities—in her remarks upon the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, and in vaunting of what she had accomplished for Arkansas and the Craft generally, the Grand Lodge of Ohio has read her a gentle lecture, which it is to be hoped will not be without salutary effect. The Grand Lodge of Mississippi has always shown a disposition to receive instruction, and, we doubt not, will be always willing to be illuminated by any of the Great Lights of the East.

NON-AFFILIATED BRETHREN.

Maine and Arkansas approve of Mississippi's course in taxing non-affiliated brethren, and New York notices the fact without condemnation. These drones must contribute to the support of the Institution, or be deprived of the privilege of enjoying the fruits of the labor of their industrious brethren. It is against the law of nature, that the butterflies of summer should eat honey in the winter. Your committee think it worth inquiring whether a law could not be established which will be less harsh in its appearance than a compulsory tax, and, at the same time, more efficient in producing the desired object, and which shall deprive brethren, who shall remain some certain period without working, or attempting to procure work, and their families, in case of their death, of the pecuniary privileges which, under the present law, they can claim as a right.

GRAND LODGE CERTIFICATES.

New York, Texas, South Carolina, Iowa, Missouri and Illinois have adopted the Grand Lodge Certificate innovation. We say "innovation," not that it is an innovation for a Grand Lodge to grant certificates, but that it is an innovation to close, either the door of the Lodge, or the lid of the Charity box, to all who do not possess the key of a Grand Seal. In New York and Missouri the certificate is not required of a visitor simply, but without it he cannot partake of the

charity fund. New Hampshire and Michigan disapprove of this new rule, and Maryland repeals a similar law and leaves the matter to the discretion of her Subordinates to require a certificate or not; and this is, probably, the best position in which to place the subject.

The Grand Lodge of South Carolina informs us, by Circular, that the Wardens and Brethren of Wahalla Lodge, No. 66, have been suspended because they refused to restore to membership two brethren, who had been expelled by Wahalla Lodge, but whose act of expulsion had been reversed by the Grand Lodge, and rather than associate again with the expelled brethren, surrendered the charter of the Lodge. We think that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi has done wisely in restoring only to Masonry and not to membership, in such cases, unless with the consent of the Subordinate Lodge. The Grand Lodge of New York is now suffering from the effects of the exercise of power a little too arbitrarily, in the establishment of another body, exercising the duties of a Grand Lodge, in that State, made up of her expelled members and Lodges which refuse to acknowledge the authority of the Grand Lodge of New York, and against which she specially warns us. If we were permitted to express an opinion, and we would not except in the most friendly manner, we should say that the Grand Lodge of South Carolina had acted, perhaps, hastily and had thus done injustice to Wahalla Lodge; but it is not our province to interfere between that Grand Lodge and her Subordinates, in matters of discipline.

LOUISIANA.

Several of the Grand Lodges of the United States have commented, more or less severely, upon the action of this Grand Lodge in refusing to recognize the body calling itself the Grand Lodge of Louisiana and in granting dispensations and charters to brethren in that State. For the information of the Grand Lodge, the committee have marked various passages in the published proceedings of those Grand Lodges, both before and after our final action upon the subject, and to which they beg leave simply to refer the Grand Lodge, these extracts being too voluminous to copy into this report. It was, perhaps, unfortunate that the committee on Masonry in Louisiana, last year, did not make a more extended report, giving as fully as the nature of the case would permit in writing, all the reasons for so important an action, as that of withdrawing our acknowledgement of the legal constitution of a body which, before that time, was held by us, and all the Grand Lodges of the United States, to be a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons—or rather, declaring that it no longer had an existence, and that the State of Louisiana was open to the jurisdiction of other Grand Lodges. In default of the information which could have been given, New York warmly condemns our action, and refuses to recognize Masons in Louisiana who acknowledge allegiance to this Grand Lodge; Kentucky does not approve of our course; Missouri only in part; South Carolina earnestly asks for information, and Maryland, alone, “says she is not prepared to say, that we have done wrong.” Your committee do not doubt the correctness of that action, and they cannot agree with their brethren in Missouri, who think that we should have simply made the declaration that no Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons existed in Louisiana, and there stopped; but we think, on the contrary, that so soon as we satisfied ourselves of the fact of its non-existence after careful investigation, that we had no right to refuse to grant dispensations and charters in answer to the prayer of Ancient York Masons, and to extend our protection over them. We know of no such law, or usage as that suggested by our brethren of Missouri, which required of this Grand Lodge to wait until she had received an expression of opinion from other Grand Lodges of the United States, and be guided by that of the majority. We are all free and equal, and have no common umpire; the Grand Lodges on the globe are numerous, and with some we are not in correspondence. The only rational plan was adopted—that of judging for ourselves, and leaving others to do the same. New York has seen proper, without consultation with her sister Grand Lodges,

to acknowledge and exchange representatives with certain Grand Lodges of Europe, and she has condemned Mississippi without such consultation and upon *ex parte* testimony, and without enquiry. Surely we have as much right to condemn Louisiana as New York has to condemn Mississippi, particularly, as we did not act until after mature consideration and repeated warnings, which were totally unheeded. It is not proper for this Committee to pursue this subject further, as we think it due to the importance of the question and to those whose good opinions we value, than a special Committee should be appointed to address the Fraternity generally, in justification of the action of this Grand Lodge.

EDUCATION.

The subject of education, particularly in those States in which there are as yet no public schools, has received much attention from the several Grand Lodges of the United States.

Missouri has removed her College to Lexington, Mo.

Kentucky reports Funk Seminary and Masonic College as prospering, with 170 pupils. The State of Kentucky furnishing 64, Louisiana 45 and Mississippi 43 of the number.

Ohio has appointed a committee of enquiry.

Illinois has appointed a committee to solicit donations.

Tennessee has appropriated \$1,200 to be invested in stock as a school fund.

Alabama collected some \$4,500, but could not agree upon a plan, and for the present, distributed the fund among the Subordinate Lodges.

Georgia urges her Subordinate Lodges to take up the subject.

Florida quotes, with approbation, the report of the Committee on Education in the Grand Lodge of Indiana, which recommends Common Schools under the direct patronage and control of the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of each Subordinate Lodge.

North Carolina is not asleep on this subject, having adopted the report of the Committee on the best means for raising funds, etc.

New York, having free schools, "threatens to take care of her poor."

Maryland is raising the means for her orphans and poor.

Iowa is in motion, and, in addition to schools, recommends Lodge Libraries. A good suggestion.

While our Eastern brethren object, and rightly we think, to some of the proposed beneficiary systems of another nature, copied from other benevolent institutions, by which the motive for seeking admission into ours, would be changed from that of the highest, into the most sordid, and as perverting a fund held sacred to certain well known and specified Masonic purposes, there can be no objection in using a due proportion of that fund in extending knowledge of the liberal arts and sciences, by the establishment of colleges, schools and academies under the supervision and patronage of our Grand and Subordinate Lodges, and particularly as the orphanage of the fraternity may be thus educated. This is one of the objects of our institution, hallowed by time; but at the present day the machinery of institutions exclusively of a literary character, is better calculated to promote the diffusion of this knowledge than the internal arrangement of our Lodges will permit. In the latter we can still enjoin it as a duty, but a duty to be performed elsewhere. Not doubting the propriety of the Fraternity giving their attention to the subject of education, we admit that there may be some difference of opinion as to the best mode of doing the greatest good by our limited means. While we would encourage every well digested measure having this object in view, let us not waste our means upon magnificent but utopian schemes, merely to have it said that Masonry is doing wonders in the cause of education. Masonry must now be, as she has always heretofore been, satisfied with doing good without seeking for the approbation of any but her own children. She has outdone the storm of the world's persecution and has already the support of Wisdom, Strength and

Beauty, and these pillars need no addition to them of the world's approbation, and we have witnessed with pain, the restless anxiety manifested in some quarters, to obtain the applause of the uninitiated for our labors, forgetful that Masonry seeks retirement and that it is one of her most beautiful characteristics, that she delights to do good in secret; and while we, at her bidding, should exert our utmost energies to carry into practice the principles she inculcates, let us not destroy those principles, nor be so presumptuous as to suppose that we can improve them. If man's support were their dependence, oblivion would have, centuries ago, shrouded Freemasonry from the view of the world.

Whatever other institutions may receive the supervision and patronage of the fraternity, your Committee feel that they cannot too strongly recommend to the attention of the Subordinate Lodges, the establishment of free schools in their several jurisdictions, in which common or free schools are not already provided by the public, as the means of doing an incalculable amount of good with very little expense.

M. W. GRAND LODGE OF VERMONT.

The resurrection of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, whose usefulness has been suspended for sixteen years, and whose foes, aided by traitors in her own household, had long since rejoiced in her supposed death, and whose members were excluded from juries and deprived of political rights, and whose persons were scarcely safe, proves that Masonry, being of the household of Truth, must triumph; that to her open enemies she is as the rock of Gibraltar and has nothing to fear from without, nor even from enemies within. We congratulate our firm and consistent brother, Nathan G. Haswell, P. G. M., and his worthy associates in the final reward of their fidelity, and warmly welcome our sister back into the family circle, trusting that she will take full revenge upon her enemies and "heap coals of fire upon their heads" by returning good for evil, and not doubting that she will extend her good offices to all the world who shall need her assistance.

JURISDICTION.

The Grand Lodge of Kentucky, in 1846, adopted the following:

Resolved, That the 6th article of the Constitutional Rules of this Grand Lodge be so amended as to authorize Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, situated on the borders of this commonwealth, to receive members from other States, residing in the neighborhood; *provided*, the Lodges so receiving them are nearest to their places of residence.

Tennessee has a similar regulation, but requires the consent of the nearest Lodge in the adjoining State, but she goes further and publishes the following regulation, which your Committee think a very good one and advise the adoption of one similar, at least to have effect on the borders of those States whose Grand Lodges will adopt one of like kind in reference to our border. Something of this kind has been much needed for the convenience of individual brethren:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge fully concedes to the Lodges in all the adjoining States upon our borders, the right and privilege of receiving and initiating into their Lodges citizens of Tennessee, residing on our borders, whose residence shall be nearer such Lodge than to any Lodge in Tennessee, and who may choose to apply for the same, in as free, full and ample a manner as they receive the citizens of their own States, respectively.

Resolved, That it be made the special duty of the Grand Master of this Grand Lodge to correspond with the Grand Masters of all the adjoining States, to call the attention of their respective Grand Lodges to this subject, and for their reciprocal action and decision, to the end that a permanent and reciprocal rule of action may be settled and established throughout all the Lodges on our respective borders.

The Committee will not anticipate our Grand Master by further remarks.

CONCLUSION.

This report, from the several subjects mentioned, is necessarily long—more might very properly have been said, less could not, if any comments were expected. The Committee have not felt at liberty to extend their remarks, though they would gladly have done so in justice to their subjects, if not to themselves, but they are obliged to leave several matters of great interest unmentioned, which they would have been pleased, under other circumstances, to have brought to the attention of this Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. P. MELLEN, Grand Secretary,
And ex-officio Chairman.

The Committee to whom the above report was referred, order the publication of the whole as submitted to them, except that portion which relates to the “physical qualifications of candidates,” as upon that subject the members of the Committee differ in opinion.

CHARLES SCOTT,
WM. COOPER,
CHAS. A. LACOSTE,
WM. P. MELLEN,
Committee.

Bro. Cooper presented the following report of the Select Committee on Report of the Delegate to the Masonic Convention at Baltimore:

The Committee, to whom was referred the report of William P. Mellen, delegate to the Masonic Convention, held at Baltimore in September, 1847, beg leave to report that this Grand Lodge has evinced a desire for the formation of a General Grand Lodge by the appointment of said delegate; but your Committee coincide with the delegate in his objections to the Constitution of the Supreme Grand Lodge, framed by that Convention, and recommend that the same be not ratified.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. COOPER,
J. A. FRYDINGER,
SAM'L HAMBLIN,
T. C. TUPPER,
Committee.

The Committee reported, also, the following resolution for adoption:

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated to Wm. P. Mellen, for services and expenses incurred, as the delegate of this Grand Lodge to the Masonic Convention at Baltimore.

On motion, the report and resolution were received and laid upon the table, and made the special order after the disposition of the orders of the day.

SPECIAL ORDERS.

Bro. Pitman called up his resolution relative to dividing the State into eight Masonic Districts.

Bro. Simms moved to amend, but the amendment was decided to be out of order, and the question being taken on the adoption of the resolution, it was lost.

The report of the select committee on Eureka College was, on motion, called up from the table, and the first and second resolutions were adopted. The

Third resolution being under consideration, it was amended, on motion of Bro. Tupper, so as to read as follows :

Resolved, That said board of trustees and their successors are hereby respectfully requested to report to this Grand Lodge annually the condition and prospects of said institution, and in what manner the amount given, or which may hereafter be given, shall be expended.

The resolution was then adopted.

The 4th resolution being under consideration, Bro. Pitman moved to strike out \$500, and insert 250, but the amendment did not prevail, and the 4th resolution was lost.

The report of the Committee was then agreed to.

Bro. Malone's Resolution, giving per diem and mileage to Grand Officers who did not represent Lodges, was called up and adopted.

The report and resolution of the Select Committee on the report of delegate to Baltimore, was called up, when Bro. Mitchell moved to amend the resolution by adding an appropriation to the Past Grand Lecturer, Bro. J. J. Doty, of \$282 45, but the amendment was lost, whereupon the report was agreed to and the resolution adopted.

The Grand Master, B. S. Tappan, then installed the Grand Officers elect and the Grand Lodge then adjourned *sine die*.

WM. P. MELLEEN, Grand Secretary.

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1849.

NATCHEZ, January 15, 1849.

The Grand Lodge met at the Masonic Hall at 11 o'clock, A. M.

PRESENT:

R. W. WILLIAM COOPER.....Deputy Grand Master.
BENJAMIN SPRINGER.....Grand Senior Warden, *p. t.*
HENRY M. YOUNGBLOOD.....Grand Junior Warden, *p. t.*
GEORGE I. DICKS.....Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....Grand Secretary.
P. B. MASSEY.....Grand Senior Deacon, *p. t.*
A. H. KENDRICK.....Grand Junior Deacon, *p. t.*
H. S. KELLY.....Grand Steward & Tyler, *p. t.*

PAST GRAND OFFICERS—H. M. Youngblood, Past Grand Pursuivant; and
Thomas C. Finney, Past Grand Marshal.

PAST MASTER—Ansel H. Kendrick.

Representatives of Subordinate Lodges:

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—Wm. P. Mellen.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—E. Craig.

Gallatin, No. 25—P. B. Massey.

Vicksburg, No. 26—Benjamin Springer.

Oxford, No. 33—Samuel P. Calvert.

Grand Gulf, No. 41—George R. Kiger.

Locke, No. 52—A. H. Kendrick, proxy.

Mississippi, No. 56—Charles Tullis.

Thomas Hinds, No. 58—W. B. Johnson and H. M. Youngblood.

Silas Brown, No. 65—Thomas C. Finney.

Holmesville, No. 69—William M. May.

Eastern Star, No. 79—Charles Gouveneaux.

Delegates from Lodges Under Dispensation:

St. Joseph, La.—Charles H. Foreman.

Utica, Miss.—John W. Brown.

The Grand Lodge was opened in form.

The Grand Secretary read a letter from the Grand Master, explanatory of his absence and expressive of his regret for his inability to attend this Grand Communication.

The Deputy Grand Master, after making some appropriate remarks and

informing the Grand Lodge that, not expecting to preside, he had prepared no formal communication, announced the following Standing Committees :

On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. Springer, Kiger, Calvert and Dicks.

On Subordinate Lodges—Bros. Tullis, Massey and Gouveneaux.

On Unfinished Business—Bros. Craig, Johnson and May.

On Accounts—Bros. Kendrick and Finney.

On Lodges Under Dispensation—Bros. Youngblood, Calvert and Craig.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence is appointed by a standing resolution, and is composed of the Grand Secretary, Chairman ; Grand Senior and Junior Wardens and Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Secretary presented his annual report and account current, and, on motion, the several subjects of the report and the account were referred to the appropriate Standing Committees.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi :

Since the last Grand Annual Communication, Dispensations were issued, by order of the Grand Lodge, to erect new Lodges, as follows :

St. Joseph Lodge, at St. Joseph, Louisiana.

Richmond, at Richmond, Itawamba county, Miss.

Utica, at Utica, Hinds county, Miss.

By the Grand Master :

North Mt. Pleasant Lodge, at North Mt. Pleasant, Marshall county, Miss.

DeSoto, at Cockrum's Cross Roads, DeSoto county, Miss.

Palo Alto, at Palo Alto, Miss.

Wayne, at Miltonville, Wayne county, Miss.

Sharon, at Sharon, Madison county, Miss.

Coahoma, at Friar's Point, Coahoma county, Miss.

Pearl River, at Carthage, Leake county, Miss.

Charters were duly issued, by the direction of the Grand Lodge, to

Prairie, No. 87 ; Trinity, No. 88 ; Abert, No. 89 ; Belmont, No. 90 ; United Friends, No. 91 ; Wills, No. 92 ; Philadelphia, No. 93 ; Eastport, No. 94 ; Emory, No. 95 ; Quitman, (Vera Cruz) No. 96.

The charter to Coleman Lodge, No. 29, was restored by same authority.

In Louisiana, to George Washington, No. 1 ; Lafayette, No. 2 ; Warren, No. 3 ; Marion, No. 4 ; The Crescent City, No. 5 ; Hiram, No. 6 ; Eureka, No. 7.

A second Dispensation was forwarded to St. John's Lodge, in the 2d Mississippi Regiment. The money received for Dispensation to Franklin Lodge, Louisiana, was duly returned, in accordance with the resolution of the Grand Lodge.

Owing to the evacuation of Vera Cruz by our army, Quitman Lodge, No. 96, shortly after organization under their charter, were compelled to remove their archives to New Orleans, and desiring to associate themselves with the Ancient York Lodges of Louisiana, they have surrendered their charter, which has been accepted by the Grand Master, and will probably recommence their labors under the same Lodge name at New Orleans, by charter from competent authority.

The undersigned has the honor of presenting a communication, officially announcing the formation of the Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, by the seven Lodges chartered by this Grand Lodge to work in the State of Louisiana, with copies of the proceedings of said Lodges, showing the manner in which said body has been organized, and copies of the Constitution adopted by them for the government of said Louisiana Grand Lodge (A.)

He also presents a resolution of thanks to this Grand Lodge and the fraternity of Mississippi for the lively interest they have taken in the cause of Ancient York Masonry in Louisiana.

St. Joseph Lodge in Louisiana, is working under Dispensation from this Grand Lodge. Since the formation of a Grand Lodge in that State, the question arose as to which Grand Lodge allegiance was due. The new Grand Lodge not having yet been recognized as legally formed by this Grand Lodge, St. Joseph Lodge was directed to make their returns and exhibit their work to this Grand Lodge, and if approved and the new Grand Lodge duly recognized, it was suggested and believed that you would recommend the Subordinate Lodge to the new Grand Lodge for a charter. It having been intimated that the Louisiana Grand Lodge would hold its Grand Annual Communication before the Grand Lodge of Mississippi would meet, and thereby create an unpleasant delay, the undersigned wrote to the Grand Secretary of Louisiana Grand Lodge and suggesting the propriety of that body authorizing the proper officer to issue a charter to St. Joseph Lodge after their adjournment, upon the recommendation of this Grand Lodge, and has received an answer, in which it is stated, that the whole course suggested by me in relation to St. Joseph Lodge, was approved by the Grand Master of Louisiana, Thomas H. Lewis.

The undersigned presents charges and specifications made by George Nicholson, Past Master; J. J. Hall, Senior Warden; and three others, members of Holmesville Lodge, No. 69, against the Worshipful Master of said Lodge, Jas. Kenna, who, since the filing of the charges, etc., has been suspended from office by the Grand Master. Bro. Hugh Murray Quinn was commissioned to take depositions for either party on proper notice to the opposite party.

G. W. Harlow appeals from the decision of Trinity Lodge, No. 88, suspending him from Masonry. The appeal was received on the 16th of December, and the Lodge was notified to send up the record.

J. W. Speight appeals from the decision of Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, in the case in which he preferred charges against T. Coopwood.

Eli L. Collins appeals from the decision of Lafayette Lodge, suspending him from Masonry.

John S. Riley appeals from Thomas Hinds, No. 58, upon sentence of expulsion.

John H. Russell also appeals from Macon Lodge, No. 40, which has suspended him from Masonry.

The Grand Lodge sent back last year the case of C. H. Saunders to Greensboro Lodge, No. 49, and that of Jere Cooper, to Carrollton Lodge, No. 46.

The undersigned presents herewith the complaints of these individuals against the course pursued by their respective Lodges, and an explanatory letter from the Secretary of the former.

The papers received in these cases are herewith submitted.

The undersigned respectfully suggests that it would be, in his opinion, promotive of justice and a preventive of many appeals, if a few simple rules were adopted by the Grand Lodge for the government of trials in the Subordinate Lodges and appeals to the Grand Lodge.

At the last Grand Annual Communication the Grand Master announced that Ancient York Lodge, No. 38, had surrendered their charter and had appointed a brother to settle the affairs of the Lodge. No action, however, was had by the Grand Lodge upon the subject. The surrender of the charter should have been accompanied by the surrender of all the property belonging to said Lodge, and it was properly the duty of the Grand Lodge to have appointed an administrator of its effects, as all property belonging to the Subordinate Lodge, vests at once upon a surrender or forfeiture of charter in the Grand Lodge.

The rooms in the basement of the Masonic Hall have been rented for the past year at the same rent as for the year previous.

The receipts for the past year exceeded the estimate and reached the sum of.....	\$4487 61
Expenditures, including mileage and per diem.....	\$2803 09
Extraordinary appropriations.....	688 00
To School Fund, by standing resolution.....	747 39—4238 48

Leaving an unappropriated balance in the treasury of.....	\$249 13
The exact amount of estimated balance	

Believing that the means of the Grand Lodge, without increasing the tax upon the Subordinate Lodges, to be insufficient for the permanent success of any great scheme of benevolence which would diffuse its life-giving rays equally throughout our jurisdiction, and such an one only would be worthy, or, in justice, ought to receive the favorable consideration of the Grand Lodge; and, believing that the ordinary alms-giving belongs more properly to, and can be best dispensed at the doors of the Subordinate Lodges, and being of the opinion that any considerable amount of surplus revenue annually received into the treasury, would be a fruitful source of contention and waste of time, and that the appropriations to any local objects, however worthy, would be productive of dissatisfaction, the undersigned respectfully suggests the propriety of reducing the annual dues of members of the Subordinate Lodges to the Grand Lodge, from one dollar to fifty cents each.

Basing the calculation upon the returns last year, excluding the Louisiana Lodges, the Lodge at Vera Cruz (Quitman Lodge), and the Army Lodge (St. John's), there would be an abundance to meet all expenses, and then leave a small balance for extraordinary purposes.

Estimated Receipts—

Rents.....	\$ 144 00
Charters and Dispensations.....	250 00
Degrees at \$1 each.....	1900 00
2417 members at 50 c. each.....	1208 00—
Gross Receipts.....	\$3492 00

Estimated Expenses—

Mileage and per diem.....	\$1813 00
Grand Secretary's office and incidentals.....	600 00
Printing.....	320 00
Chairs and tables, and enlarging Grand Hall, etc.,.....	500 00—
	33233 00

Surplus Balance.....\$259 00

The last item is an extraordinary one, and for this year only, that deducted, would leave a surplus of \$759.

Located as the Grand Masonic Hall is, there is but little danger, if any, from fire without, and scarcely any from fire within; yet, as there is a possibility of disaster from that element, the undersigned submits the question to the Grand Lodge, whether it would not be proper to have the building insured for an amount sufficient, or nearly so, to repair damages in case of accident.

By the directions of the late Grand Master, the undersigned required of the Lottery Managers additional security on their bond, but they, believing that it was already sufficiently good, have declined to furnish the security asked. They will probably memorialize the Grand Lodge at the present Communication. They have made no report of sales for the past year.

Some repairs are required about the Masonic Hall—the roof leaks near the parapet wall on the western side, and the large plate on that side has decayed so as to make its removal necessary in the opinion of a competent judge.

When the representation is full, the Grand Lodge room is found to be too small to comfortably seat all the members. It can be extended so as to include the Grand Secretary's office, without difficulty, and not a very heavy expense. Another room might be appropriated to the Grand Secretary. The addition of ten feet to the Grand Lodge room, which this alteration would give, it is believed, would be sufficient for the purposes of the Grand Lodge. The estimated expense is included in the calculations above made.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. P. MELLEN, Grand Secretary.

A.

To the M. W. Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Members of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The undersigned have the honor of transmitting to your Most Worshipful

and Honorable Body, a copy of the Constitution and of the proceedings of the "Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons," showing the manner in which said body had been organized, by virtue of regular charters heretofore granted to the seven different Lodges therein mentioned, by your Most Worshipful Body.

Having, as we conceive, pursued the rules and regulations sanctioned by the ancient Constitution and usages of our time-honored Order, we henceforth assume exclusive jurisdiction over all the regular Ancient York Freeasons within the limits of the State of Louisiana, and as the only legitimate Grand Lodge within said State, we tender to your Most Worshipful Body, our grateful acknowledgments for the aid by which you have enabled us to restore our ancient Order to a due observance of its ancient landmarks; and ask to be received and acknowledged as a regularly constituted and legal Grand Lodge, on terms of equality and brotherly love with the other Grand Lodges within the limits of the United States of America.

Accept, dear brethren, we pray you, the assurances of the fraternal regard, entertained for the sons of light, over whose labors of love it is your good fortune to preside, by the officers and members of the Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, thus feebly expressed by

THOS. H. LEWIS, Grand Master.

W. H. HOWARD, Grand Secretary.

[SEAL.]

New Orleans, June 29, 1848.

B.

MASONIC HALL, New Orleans.

At a meeting of the "Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons," held at the Masonic Hall, in the city of New Orleans, on the 28th day of March, 1848, the following resolution, offered by Bro. Willis P. Coleman, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi and the fraternity generally of that State, for the lively interest they have taken in the advancement of Ancient York Masonry in Louisiana.

A true copy from the minutes.

[SEAL.]

WM. H. HOWARD, Grand Secretary.

The Grand Secretary's account current showed the receipts for the year to have been \$4,487 61, which amount, less \$573 50, Grand Secretary's fees and expenses, had been paid to the Grand Treasurer; leaving a balance due the former of \$15 00.

On motion of Bro. Youngblood, so much of the Grand Secretary's report as relates to Masonry in Louisiana, and the formation of the Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, was referred to a select committee.

The committee appointed by the Grand Master, were Bros. Youngblood, Springer and Kiger.

On motion, the Deputy Grand Master was added to the committee.

The Grand Secretary presented petitions from Grenada Lodge, No. 31; Vannatta, 68; Oakland, 82, and Coffeeville, 83, which were referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The Grand Treasurer's account current showed a balance remaining in his hands of \$276 66, and also the sum of \$747 39, in the "Grand Lodge school fund."

The Grand Secretary presented the following

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Communications have been received, during the past Masonic year, from the

Grand Lodges of Maine, Vermont, New York, New Jersey from 1843 to 1848 inclusive, Maryland, North Carolina, Florida, District of Columbia, Alabama, Texas, Kentucky, Missouri, Iowa, Arkansas, Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada West, Georgia, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Michigan and Indiana, and the proceedings of the Lodges of Ancient York Masons in Louisiana, whose charters were derived from this Grand Lodge, by which a Constitution was adopted for the government of the "Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons," to which all the aforesaid Subordinate Lodges have subscribed and organized a Grand Lodge in due form. Bro. Martin R. Dudley was elected Grand Master, but during the Communication, our worthy and honored brother was, by the decree of Divine Providence, called from his labors on earth, to enjoy, it is hoped, eternal rest in the bosom of his Heavenly Father. He has been succeeded by the Hon. Thomas H. Lewis, in the high office of Grand Master. The recognition of this new Grand Lodge, will not only be a duty, but will afford, without doubt, much pleasure to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

The subject of Freemasonry in Louisiana, or rather what is more frequently termed by the commentators, "the controversy between the Grand Lodges of Louisiana and Mississippi," referring to the old Grand Lodge of Louisiana, has agitated the Masonic world. It is an error to call it a controversy, or to suppose that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi has any feeling upon the subject. We have certainly not exhibited any. We have simply discharged what we believed to be a sacred duty to the Craft, in the only way in which we could do so with efficiency, and without too much delay. We knew, if we had been truly taught by our fathers in Masonry, that we were right, and that others, when they should be as well informed as we were as to the facts of the case, would coincide with us and applaud the action of this Grand Lodge. Such has been the case with several of our sister Grand Lodges; some, however, have failed to express any opinion. Others again, condemn both Louisiana and Mississippi—the latter for extending her jurisdiction over the State of Louisiana, but not for declaring the present organization of the old Grand Lodge of Louisiana illegal, and her practices as violations of our obligations as Free and Accepted Masons. One or two take sides openly with the old Grand Lodge of Louisiana. One upon the ground only that the old Grand Lodge had been once acknowledged by the Grand Lodges of the United States, as legally constituted. New York, however, while she condemns the accumulation of the higher degrees of Scotch and Modern Masonry, justifies Louisiana in accumulating the first three degrees of those rites, and confesses that she herself has recognized them, and informs us that the Grand Lodge of Ireland has accumulated the higher degrees in the same way, with the addition of the degrees of knighthood, that Louisiana has done. It is but justice, however, to the Grand Lodge of New York, to quote so much of the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence as relates to this subject. It will be found not uninteresting. We protest in advance, however, to the want of common courtesy, not to say charity, in charging Mississippi with "picking up scrapes to suit particular occasions," and "artfully perplexing questions," and in declaring that "writers of the circular letter," meaning the officers of the Subordinate Lodges in Louisiana who have formed the Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, "and their pretended grievances, as not worthy of belief or respect." We may be permitted to say, that the writers of the circular of the 4th of July, are good men and true, zealous and bright Masons, and are as worthy of belief and respect, as any equal number of Masons who may be who accuse this Grand Lodge of any species of dishonesty. Modern Masonry selected from among the brightest ornaments of the Order, hailing from any part of the Globe; but we have no suitable language to answer to brother Masons may permit such language to be applied to a Grand Lodge, and to the members of the Masonic fraternity, but we are most happy to say, that as we have been taught, Ancient York Masonry does not, and if Mississippi is accused, justly it may be, of introducing innovations into the body of Masonry, decency of language is not one of the landmarks which she has removed. With these

exceptional phrases excluded, the report of the New York Committee, which contains really an argument in support of their opinion, is entitled to respect and is worthy of perusal.

We copy as follows :

"THE GRAND LODGES OF LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI.—We have chosen to bring this important and exciting subject up in this part of our report, because the Florida Committee have introduced in their report a printed circular letter purporting to come from a committee of the Lodges in Louisiana working under dispensations from the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, setting forth 'the causes which impelled them to repudiate the authority of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and to seek relief from their grievances, as Ancient York Masons, at the hands of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi.'* Coming to us in connection with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Florida, has given it a title to our notice which it otherwise did not possess. It appears to be a paper which, while it sets forth in detail, and we doubt not fully, the causes of their complaints, will enable us to examine the subject under every point of view in which it has been presented to us.

The form which this controversy has assumed, has rendered it, we apprehend, less easy of adjustment than it appeared to be a year ago. Whatever may have been the secret springs of its origin, our business now is, not to unravel mysteries, but to calmly discuss the subject as presented to us in the documents submitted by the parties in chief, and incidentally by those who have to some extent submitted their views to us since the action of the Grand Lodge of this State, in September last has been made known to the fraternity abroad; concerning which the Grand Lodge of Missouri adopted a hasty resolution in October, setting forth: "That the Grand Lodge of New York has acted hastily and unadvisedly, and we doubt not will retrace its steps when, by proper Masonic means, it learns all the facts which have driven this Grand Lodge (Missouri) to withhold the right hand of fellowship from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana." This resolution was adopted after the reception of a report on the controversy, from their Committee on Correspondence, in which the whole subject was rendered more intricate than before, and which probably led to their hasty action, by the assumption of facts which did not exist, as the basis of opinions in relation to the state of Masonry in Louisiana, and the position assumed by New York. In the main, Florida appears to have coincided with Missouri and has assumed an attitude of hostility to Louisiana. In relation to the position taken by us, the Missouri committee say they can only account for it by supposing the Grand Lodge had not received the printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana for January and April last. "We cannot believe," they say, "that New York can so far lose sight of the elevated ground it occupies, as the advocate of the pure and unadulterated principles of our Order, as to endorse the course pursued by Louisiana, with a knowledge of the facts staring them in the face; and although that portion of the Constitutional Rules of the Louisiana Grand Lodge, published in the proceedings of our Grand Lodge last year, would seem sufficient to warn the Grand Lodge of New York that all was not well, still do we hope that its 'sober second thoughts' will lead to a more consistent view of the subject." We thank our Missouri brethren for their compliment, but beg leave to remind them that New York has hitherto endorsed only the laudable discretion of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana in taking under her maternal government all the Lodges existing in that State, and that we still recognize her as a true and legitimate Grand Lodge. Our Missouri brethren, we think, must have read our remarks and resolutions in June and September last without sufficient care. They will, we hope, find us sufficiently explicit in what we have now to say on the subject.

We have to notice one other remark in the report of the Missouri Committee,

* By a circular letter, dated "New Orleans, July 4, 1848," received by our Grand Secretary, we are officially informed that those Lodges have formed a Grand Lodge under the distinctive title of "Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons."

concurrent in by the Grand Lodge of Florida. They say, they clearly coincide in opinion with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, that the Grand of Mississippi, in assuming jurisdiction over Louisiana at this time, has not acted in conformity to what is regarded to be a fundamental law in this country; and not only regret that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana did not assume and maintain this ground when the Grand Orient of France, with even less ceremony, trampled upon its jurisdiction by constituting Lodges in the State after it was legally organized and acknowledged.

The Grand Orient of France was probably not aware of the claims of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, otherwise, she acted contrary to her own statutes. But the Grand Lodge of Louisiana did, in this case, precisely what the Grand Lodge of Georgia did when she took under her jurisdiction Orion Lodge, No. 8, now on her register, which had been established within her territory by the Grand Lodge of Florida; and what the Grand Lodge of Illinois has more recently done by taking Kavanaugh Lodge under her wings, which was planted in her Territory by the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin.

Many questions are involved in this controversy; questions of vast and vital importance to our Institution. So vast and so vital that the Grand Lodge of New York took the earliest moment to declare her opinion and proffer her advice, after the first announcement of the views entertained by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi; and so far are we from any intention of changing our front, that we hope still to obtain attention to that advice; to maintain our position, and by peaceable, fraternal and conciliatory measures—by the influence of sound doctrine, sound argument and perseverance, to accomplish the great object of our efforts, which we plainly and truly declared in our report on Foreign Correspondence, published in the transactions of this Grand Lodge in June last, in the following words: "To arouse the fraternity everywhere to an active use of the talents committed to their care; to rigorously preserve the old Constitution and Landmarks of the Order; to banish innovations and errors from their statute books and practice, and to make that true, which has not been so at any time in the past century—although it has been asserted a thousand times—and thousands of Masons believe it to be true now—and the whole profane world believe it to be so—that the whole Masonic family is united in fraternal intercourse, with the same bonds of brotherhood, and the same fundamental principles acknowledged in their Constitutions;* and in the same spirit we deprecated the action of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi at the commencement of this controversy, saying that "The evils of rival and conflicting jurisdictions have been sufficiently exemplified in England, Mexico, South Carolina, France and other places, and to revive such at a period when the great Masonic powers of the world are concentrating all their influences to restore universal harmony, would inflict a wound, the terrible consequences of which we will not attempt to predict."† We are still determined to maintain our conservative position; we wish not to be misunderstood by either Mississippi or Louisiana, and we desire not to be misrepresented. We have regretted a long time that there existed cause anywhere for the questions which, as we have noticed, are involved in this controversy; we have foreseen for years the destructive tendency of many measures in many Grand Lodges, and have, so far as lay in our power endeavored to check their progress, and have lifted our warning voice against them in admonition and reproof, because we feared the result of the innovations, interpolations, abstractions, strange doctrines, entangling alliances, and short-sighted policy which have received the sanction of many Grand Lodges in Europe and America. These measures of destructive tendency commenced long before any of us were born, and they began to produce discord and disruption in the fraternity a century ago, when a part of the members of the Grand Lodge of England separated from that body, and organized a Grand Lodge, which they called, for pre-eminence sake, the Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons; not because they had any authority from, or connection with any real or imaginary

*See printed transactions 1847, p. 68. † See printed transactions 1847, p. 59.

Grand Lodge at York, but because they professed, and, as we believe, did adhere to the ancient York Constitution of Masonry.* This body gave the body from which they separated the subriquet of "Modern Masons." This schism in the Grand Lodge of England led to bitter controversies, and a division between the descendants of each Grand Lodge. The breach continued until 1813, when a union took place in London between the two Grand Lodges, and the British Lodges were united under one Grand Lodge, called "The United Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of England." From that time the titles of "Ancient York," and "Modern Masons," were dropped.†

On the 24th of June, 1814, the M. W. Thomas W. Bacot, Grand Master of South Carolina, on communicating the intelligence of the union to the Grand Lodge of that State, said: "I congratulate the Grand Lodge on this happy and interesting event, which re-establishes Free Masonry upon its pure and original principles of universal philanthropy, and feel particularly gratified to observe in its commencement, progress and conclusion, an almost exact coincidence with the proceedings which took place at the formation of the union between the two Grand Lodges of Free Masons in this State, which eventuated in the establishment of this Grand Lodge."

On the 1st of March, 1815, the Grand Master, De Witt Clinton, reported to the Grand Lodge of New York on the documents relative to the unions effected in England and South Carolina, "by which events," said he, "the Masonic fraternity throughout the world have been united into one happy family." The terms of union appear to have been on the footing of perfect equality, but how the precise differences have been arranged and adjusted, cannot be collected from the printed communications. In this State there is but one Grand Lodge, and of course no union is necessary. The only interest that we can take in these events, must refer to the benign influence which they have on the general prosperity of Freemasonry, but inasmuch as brethren who have heretofore been considered as Modern Masons may visit the Grand Lodges, it is proper that some general rule should be adopted in relation to them. He then proposed a resolution, which was adopted, that all Free Masons who are recognized as such by the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland, Ireland and South Carolina, should be received as such by the Lodges of this State; this law was extended in 1845, to include the Grand Lodges of Hamburg, Frankfort-on-Main, Saxony, the Netherlands and Switzerland. From 1815 we regarded the schism as ended, but its evil effects continued to exist. The Lodges planted by the two English Grand Lodges in foreign lands, had in many places organized Grand Lodges long before the union, and their descendants were more or less separated from each other by the jealousies and dogmatism which they had inherited from their founders; nearly everywhere the old Constitutions of the Order were altered by curtailments or additions, so that much of their original character was lost—or they were altogether dropped. Local legislation furnished what were called Constitutions and Regulations, and the Constitutions, Regulations and Ancient Usages of the fraternity became more various than the languages in which they were written. If such departures were tolerated in the written laws of the Order, we should not be surprised, nor are we, that the ritual and ceremonials of the Craft underwent a like transforming process. Such has been the true state of the Institution in both hemispheres for many years, with few, very few, exceptions, and they, for the greater part, among the Grand Lodges of this country.

* See Oliver's Preston, pp. 211, 212.

† The following note is from the pen of Bro. Dr. George Oliver, and may be found in his edition of Preston's "Illustrations," page 329. "It affords me the most heartfelt pleasure to observe that all recollection of the bitterness which characterized this revolting controversy is so entirely obliterated, that the distinction of Ancient and Modern are known only as matters of history, and remembered but with the sigh of regret that such disputes should have ever occurred to cloud the amiable and decent spirit which ought always to distinguish the science of Free Masonry."

We must not lose sight of another fact not hitherto mentioned in this connection. Neither the Grand Lodge of Scotland, nor the body which preceded it, the annual general assembly at Kilwinning, had any connection with English Masonry. Until after the union of the two kingdoms, there is no evidence of any intercourse between the Scottish and English Craftsmen. The legitimacy of the Grand Lodge of Scotland has, however, never been questioned, and her descendants are entitled to all the rights which depend upon that title.

To the Grand Lodge of Scotland, or to one or the other of the English Grand Lodges, every regular Grand Lodge in the world can trace its parentage. Most of the Grand Lodges of the world, in addition to the causes of non-intercourse which we have before mentioned, were kept apart for long periods by impracticable distances and national wars, so that few were aware of the transactions of the others; each considered themselves possessed of the right to exercise their own judgment in the correction of their Constitution, regulations and other laws, and in the embellishment, and what they no doubt considered the improvement of the institution, and when we consider, in addition to all these facts, that until recent times very little knowledge has existed in the world of the nature of constitutional law, we ought not to be surprised that a multitude of variations have obtained in the Masonic family, but should rather rejoice that there have been so few of vital importance, and none past remedy. Still they were evils, and they were constantly accumulating, but the great body of the fraternity were not aware of them, few regarded them with solicitude, and fewer still saw their destructive tendency, or foresaw the final and fatal result. We endeavored to avert that result by a course of quiet, conciliatory and fraternal measures, in the hope that by patient labor willingly bestowed on the great object before us, and in which we have persevered until this day, from what we believed to be motives of philanthropy, we should at length bring about a universal harmony in the Order, restore the supremacy of the ancient Constitution—the written Constitution—contained in the ancient Charges of Free and Accepted Masons—and thus preserve the institution from a partizan warfare, which would probably destroy its boasted unity forever. We not only hoped, but believed, in the ultimate success of our endeavors, because we believed that the whole fraternity would agree with us that it would be more honorable and advantageous to all that we should be united as one great fraternity, than that we should split into a number of irreconcilable factions, each insisting on being right, and all others wrong, and not recognizable as brethren. To attain the result we so ardently desired, we aimed first to awaken the attention of the Grand Lodges in this country to each other's legislation, through the reports of our Committees on Foreign Correspondence, and we succeeded. The stereotyped reports were abolished, and there are few, we believe, at the present time, who would be content to see them restored. Our next effort was to bring all the regular Grand Lodges of the world into correspondence with each other. We, therefore, in June, 1838, recommended the representative system, which has since been attended with partial success; but any degree of success secured an advance towards the mark in view. At the same time we submitted the question plainly, and in terms, of the propriety and expediency of recognizing Masons of the French, (or modern) and Scottish rites; which question was submitted again in 1839, to the Grand Lodges of the Union. Those which responded agreed to the propriety, and those who did not respond gave, by their silence, a tacit approval. The commissions sent to our representatives abroad, a copy of which we published in our transactions of 1839, plainly and in terms set forth the great object that we had in view—the preservation of the unity, purity and integrity of the institution. On this track we have steadily moved forward, as may be verified by reference to the published letters and reports of our Grand Masters and committees.

On the other hand we have avoided any disruption of the fraternal relations existing between us and our sister Grand Lodges which we knew to be regular in their organization, although some of them had seriously wandered from the fundamental laws of the Order by the enactment of adverse regulations. Even

our controversy with the Grand Lodge of the Three Globes, at Berlin, has never led us to deny her legal existence, nor has the Grand Lodge of England denied the legal existence of the Grand Lodge Royal York of Friendship, at Berlin, although the Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland, has withdrawn his Representative, as a mark of his disapprobation of her course; and we still hope to induce both those Grand Lodges to return to the fundamental principles laid down in the ancient charges, as the Grand Lodges of Frankfort and Saxony have already done—not by violent measures, but by the mild influence of brotherly kindness and sound argument. When we determined to sustain the Grand Lodge of Louisiana in her supreme and sole jurisdiction over the fraternity of that State, we by no means endorsed any errors she might have practiced either in her legislation or her work. We strongly disapprove of her entangling alliance with the novelties called high degrees, with all their corrupting influences; but we believe her to be still a true and regular Grand Lodge, quite as worthy of our regard and support as her antagonist, the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, which has excluded the ancient charges from her Constitution, has enacted laws in direct opposition to those ancient charges, and justified herself by the declaration that the world has changed and Masonry has changed, and upon whose statute book, which we have carefully examined, there is not one word to indicate that she considered herself particularly a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons; and yet, for all this, we have never questioned her rights as a regularly organized Grand Lodge, although we as utterly and totally repudiate her doctrine that Masonry has changed, as did our Grand Master Robertson in 1845—and conscientiously believe that she is not orthodox in her Masonic faith, yet we as fully believe that neither her errors, nor those of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, nor those of the other Grand Lodges whose acts we shall be under the necessity (in the thorough investigation we intend to make of this controversy) have rendered it necessary or proper that the terrible sentence of outlawry from the Masonic fold should be passed upon them, or either of them. The idea of intentional wrong to the institution is not involved in their acts, and the Grand Lodges of Missouri and Florida, while they censure the Grand Lodge of Louisiana more than she deserves, also disapprove of the infringement upon her jurisdiction by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

"The Grand Lodge of Mississippi, in February, 1847, as a preamble to the resolutions which we notice in June last, says, 'WHEREAS, In the opinion of this Grand Lodge, each distinctive Rite produces different powers which govern it, and is independent of all others; AND WHEREAS, No Grand Lodge of Scotch, French, or Cumulative Rites can legally assume jurisdiction over any Ancient York Lodge.' The first part of this preamble is a scrap picked out to suit the occasion from the dogmas of the Supreme Council of France, of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, which as adopted by Mississippi, must be adopted with all its meaning, and with the recognition of the doctrine that two or three rival powers over the symbolic degrees may be established in any one State, or country, provided they profess different Rites. But the doctrine thus assumed and adopted by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi would most certainly be resisted in practice by every Grand Lodge in the Union. The members of the Supreme Councils of the Scottish Rite in this country would be among the first to resist the establishment of Lodges of the first three degrees by any Supreme Council, as they would if established by a foreign Grand Lodge. There is really no difference between the York and Scottish Rites discoverable in an examination, and experience has proved to us, that all Masonic feeling would succumb to the jealousies and heart-burnings which rivalry creates. Once—a quarter of a century ago—we established four Lodges in Mexico, where, at the time, although unknown, to us, Lodges of the Scottish Rite had been regularly established; rivalry and fierce discord very soon obliterated both *Ecossaise* and *Yorkinoes*.

"But" says Mississippi, "No Grand Lodge of Scotch, French, or Cumulative Rites can legally assume jurisdiction over any Ancient York Lodge, and the Grand Lodge of Louisiana being composed of a cumulation of Rites cannot

be recognized as a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons." In this declaration, the subject is artfully perplexed. The Grand Lodge of Louisiana has been from her organization recognized as a Grand Lodge of the York Rite, she claims to be such still, her organization is known to have been as regular, and her declaration, for aught we know to the contrary, is as worthy of credence, as that of the Grand Lodge which now assumes to sit in judgment upon her, and to condemn her to annihilation. Strictly speaking, the present Grand Lodge of England is composed of a cumulation of Rites,* and she has done what the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has avoided, for the former has not only brought the Lodges of the 'York' and 'Modern Rites' together, but she has 'accumulated' the peculiar and distinctive characteristics of both: and although the same are used all over the continent of Europe, many of them are untaught, because unknown by the great body of the fraternity in the United States. We cannot write of these things more distinctly, but we would advise our brethren of Mississippi if they wish to know what is taught by the present Grand Lodge of England, to visit, if permitted, one of the 'French' (or 'Modern') Lodges in New Orleans, and they will be informed.

If, however, the objection urged against the Grand Lodge of Louisiana relates to her intercourse with, or recognition of the higher degrees, (so called,) we would ask if the Grand Lodge of Ireland is considered subject to the ban of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi on that same account? We have before us a copy of the Constitution of Free Masonry, or Ahiman Rezon, presented by the Grand Lodge of Ireland to the Grand Lodge of New York, in which we find that "the Grand Master of the Craft (is) to be the first Grand Principal of the Supreme Grand Royal Arch Chapter. The Deputy Grand Master the second Grand Principal."

'Every Chapter shall be attached to some warranted Lodge, and the rank of precedence of the several Chapters shall be determined according to the priority of the Lodges to which they may be respectively attached, and, in all cases, the Chapters shall be held where the Lodges are held to which they are attached.'

'The Grand Master of the Craft, on being qualified, (is) to be the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master of High Knights Templar, together with the preceding degrees of Knights of the Sword, Knights of the East, and Knights of the East and West, commonly, though erroneously, called the Knights of the Red Cross.' In the same is found also the organization of a Supreme Council of Rites, with the Grand Master of the Craft at its head, as President, which runs to the thirty-third degree, precisely the same as in Louisiana. We have before us also two laws of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, in full force at the present day—one passed October 4th, 1838, as follows: 'That the Grand Lodge recognize the Constitution of the Supreme Grand Council of Rites for Ireland, and act in unison with it, as with the Supreme Royal Arch Chapter and Supreme Grand Encampment of High Knights Templar.' The other passed February 1st, 1844, as follows: 'That this Grand Lodge strictly prohibits as unlawful, all assemblies of Freemasons in Ireland, under any title whatsoever, purporting to be Masonic, not held by virtue of a warrant or Constitution from this Grand Lodge, or from other Masonic bodies recognized by, and acting in unison with the Grand Lodge of Ireland.' Is the Grand Lodge of Mississippi prepared to patronize a crusade against the Grand Lodge of Ireland on that account, and to grant warrants there to applicants who may choose to repudiate, or otherwise rebel against the regularly organized Grand Lodge of that country? Is she ready to follow out her denunciations against all the Grand Lodges of the world which have entangled themselves more or less with

* Extract from the articles of Union: "Each party having opened in a separate apartment, a just and perfect Lodge, agreeably to their regulations, they shall give and receive mutually and reciprocally the obligations of both fraternities"—"and being thus all duly and equally enlightened in both forms, they shall be empowered," etc.

high degrees?³ The Grand Lodge of Louisiana has at least the authority of very numerous and high examples for what she has done in this respect; and although we cannot, and never have approved of it, because we believe with the Grand Lodges of England and Scotland,[†] that "pure Ancient Masonry consists of three degrees and no more," yet we do not deem it to be compatible with justice, equity, fraternity or good policy, to disown her as a sister, vitiate her title, or violate her territorial jurisdiction. The Grand Lodge of Louisiana herself informs us, in her annual statement of January, 1847, that she 'corresponds fraternally' with the Supreme Council, and that at that time, the members of that body were all officers and members in activity of the Grand Lodge.

In an address by J. F. Canonge, the Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, delivered at Baton Rouge, in November last, at the laying of the corner stone of the Capitol of the State, we find the writers of the circular letter before mentioned, and their pretended grievances alluded to, as not worthy of belief or respect.

Many of the grievances arrayed by these persons against the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, certainly deserve no notice, being extremely frivolous, such as regulations in relation to processions, balloting, proxies, etc., though represented as 'violations of the Ancient Constitutions of the Order,' which they are not; they are merely regulations, perfectly within the power of every Grand Lodge, and have been adopted as such by many Grand Lodges, as we could show if necessary.

One of the enumerated grievances, and the only one which we have not yet discussed, which is presented in a tangible shape, is noticed by the Grand Lodges of Missouri and Illinois, and we quote the remarks of the latter: 'There are objectionable features in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana; particularly article 4, recited in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Missouri, they consider an innovation upon the old Constitutions, which require that a man must be of lawful age, which is held by all to be twenty-one years, before he can be received into a regular Lodge; nor do your Committee know of any provision granting exclusive privileges to the sons of Masons.' It is somewhat difficult for us to know with precision what the Committee of the Grand Lodge of Illinois means by 'the old Constitutions,' but if they have reference to any written Constitution, they should have furnished the authority by extract. Neither can we be certain whom they intend to comprehend in the term all, who hold that lawful age means twenty-one years. It is unquestionably the settled practice of the Lodges of this country, north of Louisiana, to initiate no man into Masonry until he has reached the age of twenty-one years, but it is allowed by the ancient charges, and the oldest written law is a 'regulation' (and not a part of the Masonic Constitution), which proves in itself that previous to its adoption the usage was otherwise. The term 'lawful age,' is not used in the old Constitutions. It is 'mature age,' in the editions of the English copies of 1723 (the first ever printed), 1738 and 1746. In the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England, which claimed the title of Ancient York Masons, 'mature and discreet age' are the terms used, and these are evidently discretionary terms. It was not until the 27th of December, 1663, the 'regulation' was adopted by a general assembly of the Craft, 'That no person shall be accepted, unless he be twenty-one years, or more.'[‡] The Grand Lodges as a general rule are guided by the civil law, but some have made exceptions in particular cases. Thus, in the Grand Lodges in the United States (Louisiana excepted), the acceptable age of a candidate is in accordance with the age fixed by the civil law as the termination of the minority of a man, at twenty-one years. In Prussia it is

*High degrees are but modern.—Com. G. L. Miss.

†Articles of union, ratified December 1, 1813, Article 2, Constitution Grand Lodge of Scotland, 1786.

‡ Preston, p. 163. Oliver's Edition.

twenty-five; in England twenty-one, with exceptions in particular cases, 'by dispensation from the Grand Master or Provincial Grand Master'; in Ireland twenty-one, except 'by dispensation from the Grand Master, or Grand Lodge'; in France twenty-one, but with exception allowed to the son of a Mason who has rendered important service to the Craft, and with the consent of his parent or guardian, or to a young man in the army who has served six months with his corps. Such are qualified at eighteen. In Switzerland the age of qualification is fixed at twenty-one; at Frankfort-on-Maine at twenty. The Grand Lodge of England, like the Grand Orient of France, authorizes a 'Lewis,' (the son of a Mason), to be initiated at eighteen; and the Grand Lodge of Venezuela the same. It is, therefore, clear, that the age of 'maturity' is not everywhere regulated by the regulation of 1663, nor by the laws of the land fixing the majority. We are of opinion it would be decidedly better that an uniform practice should prevail, and that as in the United States generally, Prussia and Switzerland the age of qualification and of personal freedom by the civil law should be coincident; but even then, the Masonic law, as now, would not be uniform, as the laws in this respect differ in different parts of the world, and may be changed at different times in the same country, as they have been in past centuries. In the application of these remarks to the case in point, we believe we have shown, that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has not in this particular violated the 'ancient Constitution' as charged; and that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi has no more reason to condemn that Grand Lodge for her 'regulation,' than the Grand Lodge of Prussia has to condemn for the same cause, the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, France, and other countries.

Let not, then, our brethren in Mississippi, persevere in an erroneous course from a misconception of the 'usages of the craft.' We beseech them to ponder well the consequences to the character, the harmony, and the utility of the institution of Masonry in the broad world, should she go on encouraging defection and rebellion in the Craft. If our brethren in Mississippi will not listen to us, perchance they will listen to a voice from South Carolina, uttered at a time when the brethren there were rejoicing in the prospect of universal harmony, which was about to be established throughout the Masonic world, and the names of distinction, 'Ancient or Modern,' were to 'cease,' and all the fraternity be known by the appellation of Free and Accepted Masons by the Union in England. 'Union is the foundation of the Mystic Order, and without union the fabric must fall to the ground. The great object which is purposed to be attained by the institution, will be frustrated, unless the principles of the Society become universal; and to become universal there must be a unity of design, and a corresponding unity of action, pervading the mystic family throughout the two hemispheres. It is unquestionable that the fundamental principals of the society are the same in every country in which a branch of it is established, otherwise a man might be a Freemason in one country and not in another.' If, what is called Freemasonry in Europe is not Freemasonry in America, and through the world, then it may be questioned whether it be a branch of that Universal Society, known in all nations from the remotest day, and which possesses a language peculiar to itself, which renders the Frenchman intelligible to the Briton, and the Prussian to the Algerine, and all of them to each other and to us. But if the society should be divided by party, or split into sects; if one should say 'I am of Paul,' and another, 'I am of Apollon;' or if it should be frittered away by fantastic distinctions or ridiculous prejudices, its wisdom, strength and beauty would be destroyed, and Faith, Hope and Charity would become as 'sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.' From this view of the subject, it is evident that our society to be useful, must everywhere be governed by the same principles, influenced by the same motives, directed by the same object, and be accessible to the whole brotherhood, wherever dispersed, and this we find was actually the case until the unhappy differences, already alluded to, took the rise in the Mother Lodge. But the difference which separated the fraternity was so trifling, so utterly beneath the dignity of

an intelligent being, hat it was long a source of wonder that its folly had not been overcome, and its abettors put to confusion.*

If, however, the Grand Lodge of Mississippi should unhappily shut her ears to the advice of brotherly kindness, and harden her heart against the admonitions of experience, we shall at least have the consolation of reflecting that we have done our duty between the parties, and are content to leave the result in the hands of Him, in whom our whole fraternity profess to trust."

Our time will not permit us to follow this argument, even if it were our duty, the duty of this Committee is discharged in presenting it to notice, the subject matter having been referred to a select committee, and to that committee belongs the defence of this Grand Lodge. But we may be permitted to observe, that we cannot admit Louisiana to be right, because New York has partially adopted the error of Louisiana, or because Ireland has exceeded her in doing wrong. We cannot admit, though it may be claimed by New York and Ireland, the infallibility of any Grand Lodge, composed of men like ourselves, with few, if any better opportunities for receiving light than we have. The sun of Masonry, like the God of day, rises as brightly in America as in Europe, and he is as glorious west as east of the Alleghanies. His morning rays may have earlier vivified our brethren of Europe, but we also have had our morning, as with civilization, he passed on his journey around our globe, and we of the west, equally with our eastern brethren, enjoy his meridian glory, and though passing clouds may have veiled his face from us in Mississippi oftener than we could have wished, yet we hope to be pardoned if we are not always "hushed when New York speaks" but, on the contrary, we do not hesitate to say that if New York, or even Ireland, should give the same just grounds for exclusion from our association, Mississippi will be as ready, though great would be her regret for the existence of the cause, to withhold her right hand of fellowship from them as she was from the old Grand Lodge of Louisiana. It is proper for us to add, also, that Mississippi, prosperous almost beyond example within her own jurisdiction, had no ambition to extend it beyond her own State lines; money she did not want, for she refused to receive the dues of the Lodges of Louisiana. She had no malice to gratify, and she has uttered no harsh word, nor has she anathemized any, nor even interdicted intercourse with the Masons of Louisiana, still acknowledging allegiance to the old Grand Lodge. Your Committee, however, believe the latter a duty which she ought now to perform. She has always been ready and willing to recognize all regular Ancient York Grand Lodges. She knows no others, and does not desire to hold communion with any which do not properly and proudly bear this title. If she has erred, she has erred in the praiseworthy attempt to keep pure the faith as she has received it, and faithfully transmit the trust to posterity.

UNIFORMITY OF WORK.

Finding that the annual appointment of Grand Lecturers, resulted in a frequent change of individuals, and as frequent a change in the work, many plans have been suggested to arrive at a uniformity by other means, but as yet, no mode brought forward appears likely to succeed. How much better the plan adopted by Kentucky at the last Grand Annual Communication, is, than others, time must determine, but we much doubt of its practicability. The Grand Master was required to appoint a committee of ten, one for each Congressional District, who were to assemble at Frankfort on the first Monday of the present month, and open a Lodge and work in the first three degrees, until they shall have assimilated their work as near as may be, and if approved by Grand Master, the Lodge to be then closed. Each member of this Committee, at some convenient time within three months thereafter, are required to convoke the Masters or such other representatives as the Lodges may appoint, of all the

*Extract from Minutes of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina, August 26, 1814.

Lodges within his district, giving twenty days' notice, and open a Lodge and instruct the representatives thus assembled; and he may assemble said representatives from time to time, until he shall consider them sufficiently instructed; *Provided*, The Masters and representatives shall not be compelled to attend more than five days at any one time. The expenses of the Committee to be paid by the Grand Lodge.

Some of your Committee are of opinion that there is but one mode for producing uniformity of work, and that is by the appointment of a competent Grand Lecturer, in the language of political constitutions, during good behavior, and make it his duty to instruct at least three members of each Lodge perfectly in the work and lectures, and afterwards to inspect the work and rectify the errors—giving him a compensation worthy of his high calling. The Committee submit this as a thought, not as a proposition for agreement or present action

NON-AFFILIATED BRETHREN.

The subject of taxing non-affiliated brethren continues to occupy the attention of several Grand Lodges, and a diversity of opinion has been expressed as to both the right and expediency of the measure. The Grand Master of North Carolina, whose opinion is adopted by the Grand Lodge of Maryland, expresses himself as decidedly opposed to compelling brethren thus situated to join a Lodge, or Lodges to receive all who may offer to become members, and instances the cases of "unfortunate individuals who are so constituted and of such indiscreet habits, without being actually guilty of any criminality, as that even their most intimate friends would debar them from participating in any important deliberations or enterprises which might possibly be prejudiced by their proverbial imprudence. Such individuals, most assuredly, have claims upon the fraternity, and enjoy certain privileges, etc."

If the unworthy are not included in the "unfortunate," by the Grand Master of North Carolina, we apprehend that so few will come within his description as to form an exception so insignificant as not to prevent the adoption of the rule, if deemed otherwise expedient.

The Grand Lodge of Wisconsin has adopted the following rule:

"Every Master Mason being a regular member of any legally constituted Lodge of Freemasons throughout the globe, shall be received as a brother in all Lodges and by all brethren under this jurisdiction, and shall be entitled to all the honors and benefits of Masonry. But no Mason shall be so received and acknowledged, nor entitled to such benefits, unless he shall produce satisfactory evidence that he is not only a member of some regular Lodge, but that he is in good standing therein in every respect, and unless such evidence be produced, such Mason shall be deemed to have withdrawn, or been suspended, or expelled from the Order, and thereby been placed out of the pale of all its benefits of every name and kind."

Missouri makes it the duty of each Subordinate Lodge, once in each year, previous to the 1st April, to summon before it all Master Masons residing within its jurisdiction, (who are deemed worthy as such,) not members of any Lodge, and who are considered able to contribute to the charity fund, and request such brethren to contribute three dollars per annum to said fund, but for sufficient reasons, may discharge said brethren from a compliance with the request. Any brother who shall refuse to pay, being considered able to do so, shall be incapacitated from visiting any Lodge within the jurisdiction in which he may reside, be debarred participation in the charity fund, and from Masonic burial.

Arkansas deprives all who do not attach themselves to Lodges, of all the rights and benefits of Masonry.

According to the experience of your Committee, the non-affiliated brethren have drawn the most largely upon the funds of the Order. Instances are known of men who have received the degrees and remained members but a short time,

if at all, neither laboring nor contributing their money for the support of Masonry for almost a life-time, claiming assistance and Masonic burial, and their families support after their deaths. This cannot be right, and your Committee, pleased with the remedy provided by Missouri, recommend the adoption of a similar one.

SUPREME GRAND LODGE.

The Grand Lodges of Maryland, North Carolina, Maine, New Hampshire, Michigan, Iowa and Indiana, have ratified the Constitution for the Supreme Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania, District of Columbia, Virginia, Missouri and Mississippi have refused their assent. The other Grand Lodges have not yet been heard from on this subject. The ratification of sixteen Grand Lodges before the first day of the present month was necessary for the formation of a Supreme Grand Lodge. It is not believed that a sufficient number are satisfied with the Constitution as presented, to carry it into effect, though a larger number are in favor of a Supreme Grand Lodge, with all necessary powers to make it useful to Masonry.

EDUCATION.

The Fourth Annual Report of the Trustees of the Lagrange Masonic College, shows a large diminution in the number of students, and as a consequence of the withdrawal of scholarships by the Subordinate Lodges of Kentucky, with the consent of the Grand Lodge, the Institution has been crippled in its resources; yet the zeal of its friends in the Grand Lodge of Kentucky appears to be unabated. President Finley has retired and his place has been filled by another.

In a country in which the people are the sovereigns, we are the advocates of equal and universal education, and in building up a system we are not partial to the plan of establishing colleges in those States in which common schools do not abound, as an inversion of the pyramid, and particularly as the former are necessarily for the rich few, while the latter, like the dews of Heaven, are for all; yet for the sake of the cause of education, we would greatly regret to see any plan fail for its promotion, and particularly those under the patronage of the Masonic Fraternity; and it is to be hoped that the next report of the Trustees will show Lagrange in a more flourishing condition than ever.

Missouri, stimulated by Kentucky, has also a college, which has opened with seventy-six students, and with a good prospect of success. The undertaking is one of great magnitude and will require much money and fostering care to give it a vigorous and healthy existence, but it is a noble enterprise and we wish it every success.

PHYSICAL QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES.

Probably no subject has received greater attention than this from the several Grand Lodges of the United States since the adoption of a certain resolution on this subject, by this Grand Lodge, by which an old landmark was removed. With but one or two exceptions, the action of this Grand Lodge has been condemned, and we may well doubt our correctness, when we find the sad error into which it has led one of our Subordinate Lodges and our late Grand Master Tappan. It was certainly not, we feel bound to presume, in the contemplation of the author of that resolution, to admit the blind into the fraternity; but it appears that such has been the construction, and a man born blind has been absolutely initiated, passed and raised in a Subordinate Lodge within this jurisdiction, and admitted as a visitor in the Grand Lodge! It is scarcely credible to an old Mason, but our records exhibit the fact. Our attention is particularly drawn to this subject by the fact, that the same individual presented himself for admission, as a visitor, at the door of Morrison Lodge,

in Kentucky, and was refused, on the ground that he was not a legally made Mason, and the course of said Lodge was approved by the Grand Lodge of that State at the Grand Annual Communication in August last. The resolution adopted by this Grand Lodge, permitted the initiation of candidates who are not so deformed as to preclude their being instructed as Masons. At the time of its adoption, it was admitted to be a change of the ancient rule, but justified by the admission of the merely speculative Mason into the fraternity, and that speculative Masonry did not require all of the physical qualifications which were necessary for the proper discharge of the duties of operative Masonry. This resolution has been quoted with approbation by the Grand Lodge of Maine, which decided at the last Grand Communication, that the loss of a right arm was no bar to the admission of a candidate, and approved by the Grand Lodges of Ohio, Alabama, Kentucky, and Wisconsin, and pointedly condemned by those of South Carolina, Iowa, Maryland, New York and others.

If it were true that the whole reason of the law had ceased to exist, the law itself might, perhaps, be properly disregarded. If it were true that the law related solely to operative Masonry, it might be considered the necessary result to the opening of the doors of the Lodge during the Grand Mastership of Sir Christopher Wren, to the merely speculative Mason, and would belong to the class of regulations which required the entered apprentice to serve so many years before he could become a fellow-craft, and then so many more before he could be raised to the dignity of a Master-workman, and which have become obsolete. But your Committee are of opinion that there are other and higher reasons for maintaining the letter of the old Constitution, than any which they find published in the documents before them. The rule was not adopted, they apprehend, merely because the initiated would have laborious work to perform. The doors to the Jewish Priesthood were guarded by a similar rule, ordained by the Great Architect of the Universe. The Priest and the Sacrifice were equally to be without blemish. Was it on account of the physical labors of the Priest, or from a fear that he would become burthensome? Surely not. But we must leave what we conceive to be the more important reasons for the law, and which have not failed, but remain unimpaired by time and circumstances, to be suggested by the reflection of the Mason well informed upon the nature and character of Freemasonry.

Your Committee think the resolution of this Grand Lodge worthy of reconsideration, and if it be found upon more mature reflection, that this Grand Lodge was wrong in adopting it, let it be repealed, and let the old landmark stand where our forefathers placed it.

The Grand Master of Maine contends that candidates initiated into the first, have a right to other two degrees. He says it is a fraud upon the candidate, to be admitted to the outer courts, and not be permitted to penetrate to the interior of the temple.

We cannot admit this doctrine. If the candidate receives the degrees for which he pays, there can be no fraud.

In North Carolina they object to balloting for each degree separately, "because the candidate may refuse to advance." Here, some of our Lodges thus vote to prevent, by an easy process, an unworthy candidate from advancing.

The question has been much mooted, but it is now generally conceded, and properly, we think, that an expulsion from a Chapter, does not operate upon the relations existing between the expelled member and the Blue Lodge to which he may belong, though an expulsion by a Blue Lodge would exclude from a Chapter and Masonic intercourse with all Masons.

Michigan requires all her elective Grand Officers to be Past Masters.

New Jersey has decided against the adoption of Grand Lodge certificates, and Florida, who had once assented to the Representative System, has surrendered it as useless and expensive.

We believe that we have touched briefly all the questions of interest presented in the Foreign Correspondence for the past year, and we can only add,

that the prosperity of the Craft still continues to be the subject of congratulation. Each Grand Lodge appears animated by the importance of the trust committed to it, and by the hope of being the instrument in the hands of Divine Providence, for ameliorating the physical condition of, and intellectually and morally elevating all within their influence. The Craft are vying with each other in their efforts to produce plans, for making the most available their limited funds in works of beneficence. Here and there, it is to be regretted, are heard the sounds of discord, feeble though they may be, and schismatical rather than heretical, and hence a temporary, and not a permanent, evil; yet we would that nothing should occur among Masons to destroy the harmony of Craftsmen while engaged in building a temple far more glorious than even the first temple built upon Mount Moriah, for that was natural, and this is spiritual. That, it is true, was God's House, and so is this. That was for a nation, this for the world! That was for time, but this is for eternity. That has been destroyed, but this will outlive "the wreck of matter and the crush of worlds."

Respectfully submitted.

WM. P. MELLE, Grand Secretary,
Chairman.

On motion of Bro. Youngblood, the report was received and agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Tullis,

Resolved, That the election of Grand Officers take place to-morrow at 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

TUESDAY, January 16, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Grand Officers present as before, and the same Past Grand Officers, with C. A. Lacoste, Past Grand Treasurer.

The same Past Masters, and the same Representatives as yesterday, with the addition of the following named, to-wit :

Washington Lodge, No. 3—Thos. Vernon, Rep.

Pearl, No. 23—Chas. A. Lacoste, Rep.

Aberdeen, No. 32—Jno. A. Wilcox, Rep.

Olive Branch, No. 34—Lawson Boothe, W. M.

Benj. Franklin, No. 46—James Aiken, S. W.

Locke, No. 52—Wm. T. Martin, S. W.; Richard A. Inge, J. W.

Tappan, No. 59—M. T. Anderson, proxy of W. M.

Asylum, No. 63—Ira Carpenter, Rep.

Silas Brown, No. 65—T. C. Finney, proxy of S. W.

Evening Star, No. 70—A. S. Weir, proxy of W. M.

Westville, No. 78—Jesse K. Stratton, proxy of W. M.

Pontotoc, No. 81—Thos. J. Hawkins, Rep.

Trinity, No. 88—Robert Morris, Rep.

Philadelphia, No. 93—John A. Hanson, proxy of W. M.

Coahoma, U. D.—Jas. E. Mattingly, S. W.

Prayer by Rev. Bro. Morris.

Bro. Hanson presented the returns of Pearl River Lodge, U. D.

The Deputy Grand Master made the following additions to the Standing Committees :

On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. Lacoste, Martin and Wear.

On Subordinate Lodges—Bros. Wilcox and Booth.

On Lodges Under Dispensation—Bros. Vernon and Anderson.

The order of the day being the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, the Grand Lodge proceeded with the election, which resulted as follows:

M. W. CHARLES A. LACOSTE.....	Grand Master.
R. W. BENJ. SPRINGER.....	Grand Senior Warden.
JOHN A. WILCOX.....	Grand Junior Warden.
REV. ROBERT MORRIS.....	Grand Chaplain.
J. S. B. THACHER.....	Grand Orator.
GEO. I. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
WM. R. MELLE.....	Grand Secretary.
GEO. I. KIGER.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
CHAS. TULLIS.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
P. B. MASSEY.....	Grand Marshal.
CHAS. GOUVENAUX.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
RICHARD A. INGE.....	Grand Pursuivant.
H. S. KELLY.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Grand Master elect was then installed by the Past Deputy Grand Master, Wm. Cooper, and then the Grand Master installed the other Grand Officers who took their several stations.

The Grand Master then announced the appointment of Joseph O. Walker, of Holly Springs Lodge, No. 35, as Deputy Grand Master, to serve for the ensuing year, and Bro. Walker was then duly installed by proxy.

On motion of Bro. Morris,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be presented to Deputy Grand Master Bro. Cooper, who has filled the chair of Grand Master during the present Grand Communication with dignity and ability.

Bro. Kiger presented the following report of the Committee on Complaints and Appeals:

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals, beg leave to report, that they have had under consideration the appeal of G. W. Harlow, from Trinity Lodge, No. 88, and recommend that the order of Trinity Lodge, by which said Harlow was suspended, be set aside, and said Harlow be restored to all privileges of the Order.

In the case of Macon Lodge, No. 40, against John H. Russell, your Committee cannot act, from the fact that there is no evidence on file in the case, save the appeal of the defendant Russell asking that the decision of said Lodge, by which he was expelled, be set aside.

In the case of the complaint of Jeremiah Cooper, against Carrollton Lodge, No. 36, on account of delay in finally deciding his case, which was sent back last year, the Committee have learned since the complaint was submitted, that his case has been finally disposed of by said Lodge, and therefore no action is required upon the part of the Grand Lodge.

In the case of Greensboro' Lodge, No. 49, against C. H. Saunders, your Committee recommend that the proceedings had by said Lodge against said Saunders, be set aside, and that he be restored to all the privileges of the Order.

We recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the decision of Trinity Lodge, No. 88, suspending G. W. Harlow, be set aside, and said Harlow restored to Masonry.

2. That the decision of Greensboro' Lodge, No. 49, by which C. H. Saunders was expelled, be set aside, and that said Saunders be, and is hereby restored to all the privileges of the Order.

Respectfully submitted,

B. SPRINGER,
GEO. R. KIGER,
S. P. CALVERT,
GEO. I. DICKS,
Committee.

On motion of Rev. Bro. Morris, the report was received, and on his motion, so much of the report as relates so Geo. W. Harlow was recommitted to the Committee, and the report was then agreed to.

Bro. Kendrick, for the Committee on Accounts, reported as correct the accounts of Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and recommended allowance of bills of W. H. Fox for \$8 88, and Thos. H. Quarterman, for \$7 37, which was received and agreed to.

The Deputy Grand Master presented the following report of the Select Committee on Louisiana Grand Lodge :

The Special Committee, to whom was referred "matters relating to the Louisiana Grand Lodge," have had the same under consideration, and after a careful examination of the proceedings of the regular Lodges of Ancient York Masons in Louisiana, and of the Constitution of the "Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons," offer for adoption by the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, the following resolutions :

Resolved, That we hail with pleasure the revival of pure and genuine Ancient York Freemasonry in our sister State of Louisiana, in the formation in that State of a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons.

2. That this Grand Lodge fraternally recognizes the body of Masons styled the "Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons," as a regularly constituted Grand Lodge, and as the only legitimate Grand Lodge of Masons in Louisiana.

3. That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby directed to transmit a copy of these resolutions, and a copy of the printed proceedings of this Grand Lodge to the Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons.

The Committee having examined the proceedings and By-Laws of St. Joseph Lodge, held at St. Joseph, Louisiana, and finding the same in strict accordance with the landmarks of the Order, and not inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, offer the following resolution :

Resolved, That we respectfully recommend the members of St. Joseph Lodge to the Louisiana Grand Lodge, and in their behalf, solicit for them a charter.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. COOPER,
GEO. R. KIGER,
H. M. YOUNGBLOOD,
B. SPRINGER,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and unanimously agreed to.

The Grand Secretary presented a statement and resolutions of Pearl Lodge, No. 23, which was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Rev. Bro. Morris presented a petition from J. G. Logue, Jas. D. Magill, B. F. Wroe, and several other brethren residing at or near Burkettville, praying for a dispensation to erect a Lodge at that place to be called "Bethel." The petition was referred to Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, January 16, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, met pursuant to adjournment. Present as at the morning session.

The Grand Treasurer, Bro. Dicks, presented a memorial from Charles F. Hatcher and Geo. W. Evans, offering the Grand Lodge \$500 per annum for the privilege of drawing the Grand Lodge Lottery, which was referred to a special committee, composed of Bros. Dicks, Mellen, Kiger, Wilcox and Youngblood.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned, till 9 o'clock to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, January 17, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

Present, in addition to the Past Grand Officers before mentioned, Ira S. Mitchell, P. G. S. W.

In addition to the Past Masters before reported, Thos. J. Wilson, P. M. of Yazoo Lodge, No. 42.

Representatives of Lodges the same, with the following in addition:

Lexington, No. 24—Ira S. Mitchell.

Carrollton, No. 35—William P. Bole, W. M.

Yazoo, No. 42—Thos. J. Wilson.

Bro. Craig, for the Committee on Unfinished Business, reported that there was nothing requiring the further action of this Grand Lodge.

Bro. Youngblood presented the following report of Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation.

The undersigned Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation, would most respectfully ask leave to report, that they have had under examination the various "Proceedings," By-Laws and other documents, which were submitted to them for their consideration, and find all the proceedings and reports of DeSoto and Pearl River Lodges to be in regular form.

Wayne, Sharon and Palo Alto Lodges have made no returns, either of "Proceedings" or By-Laws.

Utica Lodge, U. D., has several errors in their By-Laws, which should be corrected. Section 1, of Article 4, provides that candidates for degrees may be balloted for at a "called meeting." This is contrary to the ancient usages of the Order, and, in the opinion of your Committee, is an innovation on one of the most important Old Landmarks of Masonry. Sec. 5, of Art. 6, requires a negative ballot to be twice given to reject a candidate. This is a manifest violation of one of the oldest fundamental laws of the Order, and is also in contravention of a special rule of this Grand Lodge. A vote of rejection may be reconsidered at the same meeting at which it is given, by direction of the Worshipful Master, or should a majority of the members deem it expedient to do so; but no Lodge has any authority to compel a member, who casts a negative vote, either to reveal the fact or give his reasons for the same.

St. John's (Military) Lodge have surrendered their Dispensation. The dues of said Lodge, amounting to \$191 00, still remain unpaid, and your Committee are informed that the funds of the Lodge are not sufficient to pay the same, but that the balance, in the hands of Bro. William H. Lott, former Treasurer of said Lodge, is subject to your order, and your Committee recommend that Bro. John A. Wilcox, late W. M. of St. John's Lodge, be requested to draw his order for the same and pay it over to the Grand Secretary, and further, that the payment of said balance be considered as full satisfaction of the aforesaid dues.

The returns of Coahoma Lodge, U. D., are correct, with one exception, that of having elected officers for the present year, which they had no power to do under the dispensation.

The By-Laws of Richmond Lodge, U. D., should be so changed as to fix the time of holding their annual election of officers in December, so that the installation of the officers shall take place on the 27th of that month, that being the commencement of the Masonic year in this State.

North Mount Pleasant Lodge, U. D., have adopted the By-Laws of Holly Springs Lodge, No. 35, which have already been approved by this Grand Lodge.

Your committee have noticed that other Lodges, working under dispensations, beside Coahoma, have elected officers. These elections are, of course, null and void. None but chartered Lodges have such power.

Your committee recommend, however, that charters be granted to the above mentioned Lodges, which have made returns, etc., upon the correction of their several errors above mentioned.

Your committee would further report, that they have had under consideration the petition of Bro. A. S. Kottwitz and others, asking for a dispensation to open a new Lodge at Mt. Carmel, in Covington county; and the petition of Bro. L. B. Thompson, and others, asking for a dispensation to open a new Lodge at Burkettsville, and would respectfully recommend that dispensations be granted, agreeably to the prayers of the petitioners.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. M. YOUNGBLOOD,
E. CRAIG,
M. T. ANDERSON,
THOMAS VERNON,
SAMUEL P. CALVERT,
Committee.

On motion of Bro. Hawkins, the report was received and agreed to, and the recommendations of the committee ordered to be carried into effect.

Bro. Martin presented the following report of Committee upon Complaints and Appeals:

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals beg leave to make the further report, that they have again examined the case of Bro. Harlow upon Appeal from Trinity Lodge, No. 88, and have found in the newly submitted evidence no cause to change the opinion heretofore expressed, but are satisfied that Bro. Harlow has already suffered the penalty imposed upon him, and was entitled to all the rights and privileges of the Order from the 13th day of October, A. D. 1847, the day of the expiration of the suspension, and recommend that said Lodge be instructed to reinstate him.

In the case of the appeal of Bro. J. W. Speight from the action of Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, in relation to the punishment of Thomas Coopwood, a member of said Lodge, this committee, in view of the undue excitement prevailing in said Lodge, and that strict justice may be done, recommend that the trial and disposition of this case be referred to Columbus Lodge, No. 5, that a trial *de novo* be had before that Lodge, and that the preferment of charges, sustaining or rejecting the same, and the infliction of punishment, be regulated by the provisions of the By-Laws and Charter of that Lodge. They further recommend, that this Grand Lodge empower said Columbus Lodge to hear and determine this case, upon notice to the parties, as fully as Aberdeen Lodge might do under its charter; and that said Aberdeen Lodge be instructed so to change its By-Laws, that no greater number of votes shall be required to inflict a punishment than to sustain a charge. In consideration of the serious charges sustained against said Coopwood, your committee recommend that he stand suspended from all the rights and privileges of the Order, until his case be definitely settled in the mode above suggested.

In the case of the appeal of Eli C. Collins, from the decision of Lafayette Lodge, No. 53, your committee recommend that said Lodge be required to reinstate the appellant, inasmuch as the subject matter of the complaint against him was at the time undergoing judicial investigation, and is still undetermined, and the action of said Lodge was, at least, premature.

The committee recommend a continuance of the case of James Kenna, on the charges made against him by Holmesville Lodge, No. 69, until the next Grand Annual Communication, in accordance with the prayer of said appellant.

The case of Jos. N. Jones, from Joseph Warren Lodge, No. 71, and of A. B. Jewitt, from Belmont Lodge, No. 90, are so imperfectly brought before the committee, that they recommend that no action be taken upon them.

In the case of John S. Riley, on appeal from the decision of Thomas Hinds Lodge, No. 56, the committee are of the opinion that the action of the Lodge should, in all things, be affirmed.

In the matter of petition of T. J. Coleman, late a member of Vannatta Lodge, No. 68, the committee recommend that this Grand Lodge do restore the petitioner to Masonry, it appearing that such is the wish of said Lodge.

In the case of the appeal of John W. Chester, from Marion Lodge, No. 62, inasmuch as there is no testimony in said papers, this committee cannot recommend any action in the premises.

This committee unite with the Grand Secretary in the recommendation for the appointment of a special committee to prepare uniform rules for the government of Lodges under this jurisdiction in the trial of offending members.

BENJ. SPRINGER,
GEO. R. KIGER,
S. P. CALVERT,

GEO. I. DICKS,
CHAS. A. LACOSTE,
WM. T. MARTIN,
Committee.

On motion of Bro. Morris, the report was received.

On motion of Bro. Kiger, the several cases reported upon were taken up separately, and the report of the committee was in each case sustained, and then the report was agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Martin,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare forthwith a set of uniform rules, to govern the Lodges under this jurisdiction, in the trial of offending members

The Grand Master appointed on said committee, Bros. Martin, Wilcox and Youngblood, and, on motion of Bro. Youngblood, the Grand Master and Grand Secretary were added.

Bro. Tullis presented the following report of Committee of Subordinate Lodges:

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report, that they have examined returns to the present Communication of the following named Subordinate Lodges, and find them correct in substance. There is, however, still a considerable want of uniformity in the manner of making out returns. The following list of the Lodges have made returns:

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 16, 18, 23, 25, 26, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 40, 41, 42, 43, 46, 49, 52, 54, 56, 57, 58, 59, 62, 63, 65, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 88, 90, 93, 95.

Coffeeville Lodge, No. 83, has petitioned for a remission of their dues, but your Committee feel unwilling to grant the prayer of the petition, and recommend instead thereof, that said Lodge be allowed until the next Grand Annual Communication to pay their dues.

Your Committee recommend a remission the dues of Grenada Lodge, No. 31; and for satisfactory reasons, your Committee also recommend that the sum

of fifty dollars be appropriated out of the funds of the Grand Lodge to said Lodge.

Washington Lodge, No. 3, through their Representative, asks also for a remission of dues, and for satisfactory reasons, your Committee recommend that their prayer be granted.

Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, asks for a remission of dues, and for good reasons given to them by their Representative, your Committee recommend that the dues of said Lodge be remitted.

Grand Gulf Lodge, No. 41, having made no return of officers for the present year, the Lodge should be required to make return of the same to the Grand Secretary forthwith.

Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, asks for a remission of dues, and your Committee believing, from the facts set forth by their Representative, that the dues should be remitted, respectfully recommend the same.

Your Committee have had under examination the new By-Laws of Westville Lodge, No. 78, and highly approve them.

Your Committee recommend that Pontotoc Lodge, No. 81, strike out the amendment to their By-Laws, adopted February 3, 1848.

The Committee have examined the proceedings of Pearl Lodge, No. 23, in relation to the censure passed upon that Lodge by the Grand Lodge at the last Grand Annual Communication, and are of the opinion that said Lodge by no means merited the censure.

The Committee feel unwilling to grant an extension of time to Vannatta Lodge, No. 68, to pay their dues as prayed for.

The Committee respectfully recommend a remission of the dues of Benj. Franklin Lodge, No. 46, on account of the amount expended by said Lodge in support of a free school.

Yazoo Lodge, No. 42, asks an extension of time for the payment of the balance due by said Lodge, and your Committee recommend that the extension be granted until the next Grand Annual Communication.

In conclusion, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That all the recommendations contained in this report be adopted and carried into effect.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

C. TULLIS,
P. B. MASSEY,
C. GOUVENAUX,
JOHN A. WILCOX,
LAWSON BOOTHE,
Committee.

On motion the report was received and agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

Bro. Dicks presented the following report:

The Committee, to which was referred the memorial of C. F. Hatcher, and Geo. W. Evans, proposing to contract with the Grand Lodge to conduct a Lottery for five years for mutual benefit, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report that they regret upon principle, the connection which has existed between the Lottery and the Grand Lodge, and as the Lottery contract will expire by its own limitation in a very short time, they deem it inexpedient to enter into the contract proposed.

GEO. I. DICKS,
J. A. WILCOX,
H. M. YOUNGBLOOD,
WM. P. MELLEN,
GEO. R. KIGER,
Committee.

Bro. Tullis, from Committee on Subordinate Lodges, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That all the Lodges which have not paid and have not made their returns for the past year, have sixty days given them for that purpose.

On motion of Bro. Kiger,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to have the Grand Lodge room extended and the roof repaired, in accordance with the suggestion in his annual report, and the bills for the same be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, upon the order of the Grand Master.

Rev. Bro. Morris offered the following :

WHEREAS, It has been the practice of this Grand Lodge, until a very recent date, to encourage uniform and correct work through all the Subordinate Lodges, by means of a Grand Lecturer; and

WHEREAS, There exists an evident and increasing discordance in the Masonic labors of our Lodges; and

WHEREAS, The members of many Lodges not represented at the present Grand Communication, have expressed an opinion of the necessity of such an officer, and their desire that this Grand Lodge should supply the want; and

WHEREAS, Our Constitution, Art. 1, Sec. 10, inclines favorably to such an appointment,

Resolved, That a Grand Lecturer for the Grand Lodge be elected by ballot, to continue in office — years.

2. *Resolved*, That it is not expedient at this time to affix a specific salary to the said office, but that our Grand Lecturer is recommended to the Masonic liberality of the Subordinate Lodges to remunerate him according to their own sense of his merits and the advantages by them received.

On motion of Bro. Youngblood, the preamble and resolutions were laid upon the table.

On motion of Bro. Kiger,

Resolved, That Masonic intercourse between Lodges and Masons within this jurisdiction and the old Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and Subordinate Lodges and Masons in that State, acknowledging allegiance to said old Grand Lodge, be, and the same is hereby forbidden.

Bro. Kiger offered the following :

Resolved, That hereafter it shall be the duty of each Subordinate Lodge, once in each year, previous to the first day of November, to summon before it all Master Masons residing within its jurisdiction, who are deemed worthy as such, not members of any Lodge, and who are considered able to contribute to the funds of the Lodge, and request such brethren to contribute five dollars per annum to said funds; but for sufficient reasons, said Lodge may discharge said brethren from a compliance with the request. Any brother who shall refuse to pay, and whom the Lodge shall not excuse as aforesaid, shall be incapacitated from visiting any Lodge within the jurisdiction in which he may reside, and be debarred participation in the charity fund and from Masonic burial.

While the resolution was under consideration, the Grand Lodge adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 17, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi met pursuant to adjournment. Present as before.

The resolution offered by Bro. Kiger, in the morning, relating to non-affiliated brethren, being under consideration, Bro. Mitchell moved to

Amend by striking out all that relates to the contribution of \$5 and insert, "that all Masons who shall remain dimitted more than one year."

And the question being upon the adoption of the amendment, it was lost.

The resolution was then adopted.

Bro. Kiger then offered the following, as connected with the foregoing:

Resolved, That one-fifth of the money, so collected, be paid into the Grand Treasury, and the names of the brethren thus contributing, or refusing or failing to contribute, shall be returned annually to the Grand Lodge, under the head of "Contributors" or "Non-Contributors," as the case may be, and the said lists shall be published with the returns of the Subordinate Lodges.

2. *Resolved*, That a brother, otherwise in good standing, who shall make said contribution, shall be entitled to receive from the Secretary of the Lodge, to which his contribution is made, a certificate of good standing upon the payment of the usual fee, which certificate shall be good for twelve months from the day of the date thereof.

Resolved, That all resolutions heretofore adopted, conflicting with the foregoing resolutions be, and the same are hereby rescinded.

On motion of Bro. Mitchell, the 1st resolution was amended by striking out the words "one-fifth of the money so collected shall be paid into the Grand Treasury."

Bro. Youngblood offered the following amendment to the 1st resolution:

Resolved, That any brother who is a contributor to any other Masonic body shall be exempt from the foregoing regulations.

The Grand Master decided the amendment to be out of order, and was sustained in his opinion by the Grand Lodge.

The question having been taken separately upon the resolutions, the 1st, as amended, was adopted, the 2d was rejected, and the 3d was adopted.

Bro. Kiger presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That the resolution adopted by this Grand Lodge, upon the subject of the physical qualification of candidates, be and the same is hereby rescinded.

The question being upon the adoption of the resolution, it was decided in the negative, but

On motion of Bro. Mitchell, it was

Resolved, That the standing resolution of this Grand Lodge on the subject of physical qualification for initiation, shall not be so construed by the Subordinate Lodges as to authorize any innovation upon the Ancient Landmarks of the Order.

On motion of Bro. Youngblood,

Resolved, That the assets of Ancient York Lodge, No 38, the charter of which was surrendered at the last Grand Annual Communication, be and the same are hereby transferred to Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, with full power to collect the same, that Ancient York Lodge had previous to the surrender of her charter; *Provided*, that Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, assumes and pays all the liabilities of said Ancient York Lodge, No. 38.

Bro. Martin presented a report of the Committee on Complaints and Appeals:

The case of Madison Edwards, at the last Grand Annual Communication was sent back to DeKalb Lodge, No. 64, for final action. It appears that he has been again tried, and claimed an appeal to the Grand Lodge, which appeal DeKalb Lodge, very properly, in the opinion of your committee, refused to grant. The committee ask to be discharged from the further consideration of this case, more particularly as it appears that there was no new testimony introduced on the second trial, and as it was clearly the intention of the Grand

Lodge not to listen to a second appeal, on account of the particular nature of the case.

BENJAMIN SPRINGER,
GEO. R. KIGER,
S. P. CALVERT,

GEORGE I. DICKS,
CHARLES A. LACOSTE,
WM. T. MARTIN,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Morris, the resolution introduced by him, relating to the election of Grand Lecturer, was called up and made the order of the day for 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

Bro. Tullis offered the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to have printed a sufficient number of copies of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge at the present Communication, to be distributed according to the usual custom.

2. That the next Grand Annual Communication be held on the third Monday in January, 1850.

On motion, the resolutions were laid upon the table.

Bro. Youngblood, from Committee on Lodges under Dispensation, reported the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to issue a charter to Sharon Lodge, U D., upon approving the proceedings and By-Laws of said Lodge, which Lodge has not yet made its returns.

2. That the name of "Palo Alto" Lodge be changed to that of "Malone."

The resolutions were adopted.

Bro. Mitchell presented the following:

WHEREAS, Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, sustained heavy losses by the burning of their hall in the year 1847, and, from her location, has been compelled to contribute largely to the relief of distressed Master Masons during the fatal epidemics of the present and past years, be it therefore

Resolved, That the dues of Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, for the year 1847 be remitted.

Which was unanimously adopted.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

THURSDAY, January 18, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi met pursuant to adjournment. Present as before.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Secretary announced the death, during the past year, of Bro. Henry Tooley, the first Grand Master of Masons in the State of Mississippi. Whereupon,

Bro. Morris offered the following:

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare suitable resolutions expressive of the feelings of the Grand Lodge upon receiving information of the death of our late Past Grand Master, Dr. Henry Tooley.

The Grand Master placed upon the committee the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Senior and Junior Wardens.

Bro. Martin presented the following report:

ON RULES FOR GOVERNMENT OF SUBORDINATE LODGES ON TRIALS.

The committee appointed to prepare a uniform set of rules for the trial of offending members in Subordinate Lodges, beg leave to make the following report :

Whenever a member of any Subordinate Lodge shall desire to prefer charges against another, he shall furnish the W. Master of said Lodge with a copy of the charges he makes, with full specifications.

The W. Master shall report the same to the Lodge, concealing the name of the informant, at its next regular meeting, and he shall thereupon appoint three disinterested members to investigate said charges, who shall report at the next regular meeting, or as soon thereafter as practicable, upon the propriety of instituting a trial upon said charges.

If said Committee should report that the charges are of such a nature that the accused should be put upon his trial, the Secretary of the Lodge shall forthwith furnish the accused with a copy of said charges and specifications, and of the report of the committee thereupon, and notify him that he will be put upon his trial at the next regular meeting after service of the notice, provided he shall have had twenty days' notice, and at said next regular meeting the accused shall be tried upon the charges and specifications, unless he or the prosecutor shall show good cause for a continuance.

If the accused shall evade notice, or if the Secretary, after diligent inquiry, shall be unable, after four months, to ascertain the residence of the accused, so that notice may be served upon him, the Lodge may then proceed to trial as if he had been regularly notified.

When the Lodge shall be prepared for trial, such of the charges as have been approved by the committee of investigation shall be read. The testimony on the part of the prosecution shall then be produced, all of which testimony, except so much thereof as may be in writing and filed, shall be taken down in writing by the Secretary. The accused will then be permitted to introduce his testimony, which shall likewise be committed to writing, with the exception of such written testimony as may be filed.

All testimony, whether of Masons or others, shall be taken upon their honor, and such testimony as cannot be taken in the Lodge room, shall be taken before some disinterested member, who shall be appointed by the W. Master.

When the evidence is closed, the prosecutor, or any member he may select in his behalf, may be allowed to comment upon the evidence. The accused, or any member he may desire to represent him, (or in the absence of the accused, some member who shall be appointed by the W. Master,) may be heard in reply.

After the comments upon the evidence shall be closed, the accused shall withdraw from the Lodge room.

A vote shall then be taken upon each specification under each charge and upon each charge in their order, the prosecutor not being permitted to vote, and it shall require a vote of — of the members present to sustain any specification or charge.

When the charges shall have been voted upon, if any shall be sustained, the Lodge shall proceed to vote (the prosecutor excluded) upon the infliction of punishment.

The highest order of punishment shall first be proposed ; if that be not sustained, then the next milder punishment, until the grade be fixed, and no greater number of votes shall be required to inflict a punishment than is necessary to sustain a charge. The accused shall then be admitted and informed of the result of the trial.

Any member who shall deem himself, or the cause of Masonry, injured by the decision of his Lodge in any trial, and desiring to appeal therefrom, shall, within six months of the date of the trial, file with the Worshipful Master of said Lodge a written notice of his desire to appeal to the Grand Lodge, which

notice shall set forth his objections to the action of the Lodge and a list of such papers as he may require should be forwarded to the Grand Lodge.

The W. Master shall, thereupon, grant the appeal prayed for, and shall send up, directed to the Grand Secretary, a copy of the record of the trial, which record shall be signed by the W. M., and certified by the Secretary, under the seal of the Lodge, and shall contain a copy of the charges and specifications originally preferred, the report of the Committee of Investigation, a copy of all the testimony, for and against the accused, committed to writing at the time of the trial, and the originals or a correct copy of all papers used upon the trial as evidence or otherwise, together with a copy of appellant's notice of appeal, and of all papers he may desire to be forwarded to the Grand Lodge.

The Secretary's certificate to said record shall certify that it contains all original papers or true copies, and a true transcript of all the testimony introduced on the trial, and the Secretary shall append to said record a descriptive list of all the papers sent up.

WM. T. MARTIN, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received.

Bro. Youngblood moved to fill the blank in the rules with "two-thirds," and a vote being had thereon, the motion was lost.

On motion of Bro. Mitchell, the blank was filled with "two-thirds of the members present shall be necessary to expel, but a bare majority may inflict any other punishment."

The report was then agreed to, and the rules adopted.

The order of the day being the preamble and the following resolutions of Most Rev. Bro. Morris, relative to Grand Lecturer, they were considered, and on his motion, the blank in first resolution was filled with "one year."

Resolved, That a Grand Lecturer for the Grand Lodge be elected by ballot to continue in office — years.

2. That it is not expedient at this time to affix a specific salary to the said office, but that our Grand Lecturer is recommended to the Masonic liberality of the Subordinate Lodges to remunerate him according to their own sense of his merits and the advantages by them received.

Bro. Youngblood moved the following amendment :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge proceed to the election of twelve District Deputy Grand Lecturers, three for each Congressional District, and that said Lecturers be required to meet in the city of Jackson, on the — day of — next, and practice the several lectures until they agree perfectly in their mode of work, and that they shall then visit the Lodges in their several districts and instruct them thoroughly in the Ancient mode of Work.

2. That the Lodges so served shall compensate the Lecturer for his services.

Bro. Mitchell moved to fill first blank in amendment with "1st" April, and second blank with "1896," and a vote had, Bro. Mitchell's motion did not prevail.

On Bro. Morris' motion, the first blank was filled with "1st March," and the second with "1849."

The Grand Secretary moved to postpone indefinitely the whole subject, but the motion was lost.

The question was then taken upon the adoption of Bro. Youngblood's amendment, and the amendment was lost.

On motion of Bro. Mitchell, the second resolution was stricken out, and then the preamble and first resolution was adopted.

Bro. Tullis offered the following :

Resolved, That the Grand Lecturer that shall be elected by this Grand Lodge,

shall not visit the Lodges in this State for the purpose of instructing them, unless invited so to do by the Lodge wishing instruction.

The resolution was not adopted.*

The Grand Lodge, on motion, proceeded to the election of Grand Lecturer, which resulted in the election of Bro. Thomas J. Hawkins, of Jackson.

Bro. Morris submitted the following report of Special Committee on the

DEATH OF PAST GRAND MASTER, HENRY TOOLEY.

Your Committee, to whom was entrusted the charge of preparing suitable resolutions to express the sense of this Grand Lodge concerning the decease of Past Grand Master Henry Tooley, would respectfully report the following as the feeling of this Grand Lodge:

WHEREAS, In the dispensation of Divine Providence, another of the Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge has been taken from the pilgrimage of life to his everlasting rest; and,

WHEREAS, It becomes us as Christian Masons to look with an affectionate remembrance upon those whose virtues proclaim that they "being dead, yet speak" to the living,

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge have heard with profound regret of the death of Dr. Henry Tooley, our first Grand Master.

2. That in the death of Past Grand Master Henry Tooley, Freemasonry in our State has lost one of its brightest ornaments.

3. That this Grand Lodge commend the virtues and Masonic attainments of our deceased brother to the practice of all its members.

4. That the Grand Secretary be requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the bereaved family of the deceased.

Respectfully submitted,

R. MORRIS, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received, and the word "Christian," on motion, being stricken from the preamble, the report and resolutions were adopted.

Bro. Wilcox offered the following amendment to the Constitution:

Resolved, That the third section of the third article of the Constitution be so amended as to read, that hereafter every Subordinate Lodge shall pay into the Treasury of the Grand Lodge, annually, the following contributions, to-wit: For every degree conferred upon candidates the preceding year, the sum of one dollar; for every member, the sum of fifty cents.

Which amendment the Grand Lodge, on vote being taken thereon, deemed expedient. It therefore, lies over for consideration until the next Grand Annual Communication.

The following resolutions, offered by Bro. Tullis, were called from the table by Bro. Kiger:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to have printed a sufficient number of copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge at the present Communication to be distributed according to the usual custom.

2. That the next Grand Annual Communication be held on the third Monday in January next.

On motion of Bro. Kiger, the words "sufficient number" in first resolution were stricken out, and "500" inserted, and the "third Monday in January" in

*Section X, of Article I, of Constitution, is as follows: The Grand Lodge may appoint some expert and well-informed member as Grand Lecturer, to visit the Subordinate Lodges, at their request, to teach and instruct them in the Sublime Art, at the expense of the Lodge instructed.

second resolution were stricken out, and "first Monday in February, 1850," were inserted, and the resolutions, as amended, were then adopted.

Bro. Youngblood offered the following resolutions :

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge, that while we believe it to be the sacred duty of every member of the Masonic family, to contribute to the charity fund of some Lodge, provided his pecuniary circumstances will admit of his so doing, yet we deem it impolitic to impose a tax on any dimitted Mason.

2. That no Mason who is not a member of some subordinate Lodge, (except a sojourner,) is legally entitled to Masonic burial ; *Provided*, however, that any Lodge may grant the same to an individual whom they may consider deserving of the same, at their option.

The resolutions were ruled to be out of order

Bro. Kendrick, for the Committee on Accounts, recommended the payment of R. Stewart & Co.'s bill for tables, \$27 75, and Bro. Kelley's Grand Stewart and Tyler's bill, \$36 50, the same being found correct. Which was agreed to.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, January 18, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment. Present as in the morning.

Bro. Morris offered the following resolution, which was lost.

Resolved, That the dues of Trinity Lodge, No. 88, and Mississippi Lodge, No. 56, be remitted.

On motion of Bro. Kiger,

Resolved, That Trinity Lodge, No. 88, Mississippi Lodge, No. 56, and Philadelphia Lodge, No. 93, be allowed until the next Annual Grand Communication to pay their dues.

No further business appearing, the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi was closed in Ample Form.

WM. P. MELLE, Grand Secretary.

THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1850.

NATCHEZ, February 4th, 1850.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form, at 12 o'clock, M.

PRESENT:

M. W. CHARLES A. LACOSTE.....	Grand Master.
R. W. JOSEPH O. WALKER.....	Deputy Grand Master.
BENJAMIN SPRINGER.....	Grand Senior Warden.
JOHN F. CUSHMAN.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
Rev. ROBERT MORRIS.....	Grand Chaplain.
GEORGE I. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
THOMAS J. HAWKINS.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
AARON V. ROWE.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
CHARLES GOUVENEAUX.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
H. S. KELLY.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

James A. Chapman, P. G. J. D.; J. B. Smith, P. M., of Camden Lodge, No. 74.

Representatives of Subordinate Lodges:

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—William T. Martin, John Wells and R. A. Inge.
Andrew Jackson, No. 2—W. C. Chamberlin, Henry Clarke and G. L. C. Davis.
Washington, No. 3—Frederick J. Poor.
Clinton, No. 16—R. M. Saunders.
Leake, No. 17—F. Bostwick.
Raymond, No. 21—A. M. S. Key.
Pearl, No. 23—R. Morris.
Lexington, No. 24—A. V. Rowe.
Gallatin, No. 25—W. W. Cook and William H. Sanders.
Vicksburg, No. 26—A. H. Rowlett and William Biggs.
Canton, No. 28—N. Callahan.
Coleman, No. 29—G. N. Langford, Jr.
Aberdeen, No. 32—William P. Mellen.
Oxford, No. 33—John F. Cushman.
Olive Branch, No. 34—Lawson Boothe.
Holly Springs, No. 35—Joseph O. Walker.
Carrollton, No. 36—W. Cothran.
Monroe, No. 39—P. J. Myers.
Yazoo, No. 42—Geo. M. Powell and J. A. Cason.
Shady Grove, No. 43—William Strahan.
Salem, No. 45—S. B. Jones.

Benjamin Franklin, No. 46—James Aitkin.
 Greensboro', No. 49—J. R. Brantley and P. F. Liddell.
 Hernando, No. 51—J. O. Lusher.
 Lafayette, No. 53—Charles W. Moody.
 Sterling, No. 54—James A. Chapman.
 Chulahoma, No. 55—J. J. Meek.
 Mississippi, No. 56—E. H. Hicks and David Bone.
 Harrison, No. 57—James E. Watts.
 Thomas Hinds, No. 58—H. M. Youngblood.
 Tappan, No. 59—Charles S. Spann.
 St. Albans, No. 60—Nathaniel M. Collins.
 Marion, No. 62—L. B. Bains.
 Silas Brown, No. 65—Charles Scott.
 Houston, No. 67—R. G. Steele.
 Vannatta, No. 68—Richard Cooper.
 Joseph Warren, No. 71—C. T. Bond.
 Wilson, No. 72—P. Lee Phillips.
 Madison, No. 73—William T. Powell.
 Camden, No. 74—J. B. Smith.
 Louisville, No. 75—James B. McLelland.
 Ebenezer, No. 76—R. B. Raiford.
 Eastern Star, No. 79—Charles Gouveneaux.
 Scott, No. 80—J. W. Wafford.
 Oakland, No. 82—Johnson Buntin.
 Mt. Moriah, No. 86—William A. McMillion.
 Prairie, No. 87—W. W. Hereford.
 Trinity, No. 88—T. J. Hawkins.
 Belmont, No. 90—John R. Dickens.
 Philadelphia, No. 93—Henry C. Robinson.
 East Port, No. 94—T. J. Carlton.
 Emory, No. 95—A. A. Wilson.
 Utica, No. 98—W. H. Taylor.
 DeSoto, No. 100—Benjamin L. Jones.
 Malone, No. 101—T. W. Caskey.
 Wayne, No. 102—Benjamin Estes.
 Coahoma, No. 104—James E. Mattingley.
 Pearl River, No. 105—J. A. Hanson.
 Delegates from Lodges Under Dispensation :
 Carrollville, U. D.—W. D. King.
 Carpenter, U. D.—James R. Coleman.
 Bovina, U. D.—John Hebron.
 Hyland, U. D.—Walter R. Puckett.
 Byhalia, U. D.—Henry Moore.
 Edwards' Depot, U. D.—M. W. Phillips.
 Tchula, U. D.—James S. Merg.
 Cedar Grove, U. D.—B. F. Johnson.

Prayer by the Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The Past Grand Master of Missouri, J. W. S. Mitchell, was announced and received with the usual honors.

On motion of the Grand Secretary, suitable provision was made for the accommodation of the Editors of the Masonic Signet and the Zodiac, to take notes of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master, Charles A. Lacoste, addressed the Grand Lodge, as follows :

Brethren of the Grand Lodge :

Allow me to offer you my hearty congratulations on your safe arrival at the

scene of your labors, and, in accordance with a prevailing custom, briefly to advert to a few topics that seem to claim some allusion on my part.

The reports of the Grand Officers and of Subordinate Lodges, afford proof, that the past year has been one of unusual activity and prosperity within this jurisdiction. These gratifying results are justly attributable, in a great measure, to the wise and economical policy adhered to by our predecessors, while they indicate the gradual diffusion of the pure principles of Freemasonry.

I earnestly call your attention to the necessity of enacting a uniform code of By-Laws for the government of Lodges under dispensation.

The Constitution and General Permanent Regulations of the Grand Lodge, are not sufficiently known to—or kept in view by—the officers and members of Subordinate Lodges; a vital defect which should be supplied by some special enactment.

Section 5, Article 2, of the Grand Constitution, provides that, in the absence of the Grand Master and his Deputy, any "Past Master being a member of the Grand Lodge, or some Subordinate Lodge, may install the officers of Subordinate Lodges, and make returns of his proceedings to the Grand Master." Judging from my own experience, I should say that this important provision has become a dead letter upon the Statute Book; and I embrace this opportunity of reminding all brethren who may be called on to officiate on such occasions, of the serious obligations which they thereby assume, not only to conduct the ceremonies of installation in due and ancient form, but also to report their proceedings to the Grand Master for the time being.

The Grand Lodge Lottery contract has expired, by its own limitation, and, I trust, will never be renewed.

In other jurisdictions, the right to tax non-affiliated brethren continues to be a mooted question; several Grand Lodges and eminent individuals, arraying themselves in uncompromising opposition; others preferring to abstain from the exercise of a doubtful power. This Grand Lodge was, by the resolutions adopted at the last Grand Annual Communication, committed in favor of the measure, and an attempt has been made to enforce it throughout the jurisdiction, during the past year. The result will be laid before you, affording the most satisfactory test of its practicability and adaptation to the object in view.

It affords me the most lively gratification, to announce to you the probable speedy termination of the unfortunate schism which has, for a few years past, existed in the jurisdiction of our sister State, Louisiana—and I am sure the glad tidings will be hailed with equal joy by every Mason in Mississippi. The progress so far made in this laudable labor of love and harmony, is stated in the papers accompanying the report of your committee.

In view of so auspicious a consummation, I respectfully recommend a conditional revocation of the edict of non-intercourse heretofore pronounced by this Grand Lodge against Masons and Lodges acknowledging allegiance to the "Old Grand Lodge of Louisiana."

The subject of the humiliating scenes enacted in the Grand Lodge of New York, in June, 1849, which is elaborately treated by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, will, I doubt not, elicit an emphatic expression of the opinion of this Grand Lodge. Having been myself called on, as early as August last, to act with reference to the state of things there, I deemed it to be my duty to direct that the so-called "New Grand Lodge," of New York, of which Isaac Phillips was styled Grand Master, and James Herring, Grand Secretary, should be treated as an irregular and clandestine body.

I herewith present communications emanating from the Grand Lodges of Rhode Island and Maryland, relative to the establishment of a "General (or 'Supreme') Grand Lodge for the United States." The subject hitherto received the deliberate consideration of this Grand Lodge; it is presumed that you will be prepared for a prompt and judicious solution of the questions submitted for your action.

The presence of our Grand Lecturer, Bro. T. J. Hawkins, suggests the further recommendation that a reasonable portion of the time of the Grand

Lodge be devoted to receiving at his hands a series of lectures, and an exemplification of the work appertaining to first three degrees of Masonry.

I discharge a painful duty in communicating the death of our late Grand Senior Deacon, George R. Kiger, which occurred at Grand Gulf, in November last, by a deplorable accident. Bro. Kiger had endeared himself to all who knew him in life, and died deeply regretted. As a man, he was high minded and honorable; as a friend, devoted and true; as a soldier, brave; as a Mason, bright and zealous.

In conclusion, brethren, I invoke the blessing of our Supreme Grand Master upon your deliberations and proceedings. May he so influence them that they may redound to the best interests of our cherished institution.

On motion of Bro. Hawkins, the address of the Grand Master was ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

The Grand Secretary then presented with his account current, his annual report:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The undersigned Grand Secretary, presents, herewith, his annual account current for the past Masonic year, and respectfully reports, that, agreeably to the instructions of the Grand Lodge, given at the last Grand Annual Communication, charters were issued to the following named Lodges, to-wit:

Richmond, No. 97, at Richmond, Itawamba county.
 Utica, No. 98, at Utica, Hinds county.
 N. Mt. Pleasant, No. 99, N. Mt. Pleasant, Marshall county.
 DeSoto, No. 100, at Cockrum's X Roads, DeSoto county.
 Malone, No. 101, at Palo Alto; Chickasaw county.
 Wayne, No. 102, at Miltonville, Wayne county.
 Sharon, No. 103, at Sharon, Madison county.
 Coahoma, No. 104, at Friar's Point, Coahoma county.
 Pearl River, No. 105, at Carthage, Leake county.

And dispensations to brethren to erect new Lodges, as follows, to-wit:

Union, at Mt. Carmel, Covington county.
 Bethel, at Burkettville, Attala county.

And dispensations by order of Grand Master, to

Carrollville, at Carrollville, Pontotoc county.
 Danville, at Danville, Tishomingo county.
 Carpenter, at Rocky Springs, Claiborne county.
 Moses Cook, at Gainesville, Hancock county.
 Bovina, at Bovina, Warren county.
 Hyland, at Warrenton, Warren county.
 Lowndes, at Columbus, Lowndes county.
 Byhalia, at Byhalia, Marshall county.
 Farmington, at Farmington, Tishomingo county.
 Edward's Depot, at Edward's Depot, Hinds county.
 Camargo, at Camargo, Monroe county.
 Snowsville, at Snowsville, Winston county.
 Magnolia, at Biloxi, Harrison county.
 Tchula, at Tchula, Holmes county.
 Cedar Grove, at Oak Ridge Church, Warren county.
 Thomastown, at Thomastown, Leake county.
 Hill City, at Vicksburg, Warren county.

The receipts from all sources during the past year, were.....	\$4092 50
The expenditures for all purposes for the same time, were.....	2385 62

Balance of receipts over expenditures.....	\$1706 88
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Deduct amount carried to School fund.....	1023 12
And we have balance in Treasury in cash.....	\$ 683 76
“ “ “ “ last year.....	276 13
Total in Treasury.....	\$ 959 89
In School Fund last year.....	\$ 747 39
“ “ this year.....	1023 12
Total School Fund.....	\$1770 51

Owing to the small representation last year, many of the Lodges are in arrears. The amount owed by Subordinate Lodges is.....\$1332 50

With the exception of some small balances due by Leake, Liberty, Olive Branch and Carrollton, the indebtedness is generally for dues which should have been paid last year. Wilson, No. 72, and United Friends, No. 91, have made no returns, nor paid dues for two years; and no time having been given to either of said Lodges, if they make no returns or pay dues, it will be the duty of the Grand Lodge, under the Constitution, to suspend them from work. The Grand Lodge remitted the dues of Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, \$418 25; Grenada, No. 31, \$61; Aberdeen, No. 32, \$205; and Benjamin Franklin, No. 46, \$37; amounting altogether to \$721 25. Holly Springs, No. 35, Pikeville, No. 85, Willis, No. 92, made no returns last year nor paid dues.

Upon the recommendation, last year, of the undersigned, an amendment of the Constitution was deemed expedient, by which the dues of Subordinate Lodges for members, were reduced from one dollar to fifty cents per annum. This amendment will receive the final action of the Grand Lodge, at the present Grand Communication. That the Grand Lodge may act understandingly on the matter, the undersigned has made the following estimate, based upon the returns of last year, including the five Lodges from which no returns were received—taking their last returns for guide.

ESTIMATE FOR 1850.—RECEIPTS.

Rents.....	\$ 192 00
2696 Members at \$1 each.....	2696 00
2042 Degrees at \$1 each.....	2042 00
Charters and Dispensations.....	600 00
	\$5530 00
If the amendment be made, we must deduct 50 cents for each member.....	1348 00
Total receipts.....	\$4182 00
This allows for no default, nor remittances.	
Suppose 10 Lodges have dues remitted, or in default, average dues \$55.....	550 00
	\$3632 00

EXPENSES.

90 delegates, average mileage and per diem \$30.....	\$2700 00
Grand Secretary's office and incidentals.....	600 00
Printing.....	350 00
Grand Tyler.....	60 00
	\$3711 00
Deficit.....	\$79 00

But the increase of Lodges, though the expenses increase nearly in the same proportion, yet not quite, will make up this apparent deficit.

In obedience to the instructions of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Hall has been extended and the roof repaired. The heavy plate at the western end was found to be decayed through its entire length, and the whole was removed. To do this, it was necessary to take down the fire-wall, which, owing to a change of design of the Architect, when the building was erected, was built upon the plate—a smaller plate was put in the place of the old one, and the fire-wall rebuilt. The bills for the repairs have all been paid on the order of the Grand Master, the undersigned having kept within the appropriation made.

The new carpet upon the floor of the Grand Hall, as well as the cushions, etc., were purchased at the expense of Natchez Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, Harmony Lodge, No. 1, and Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2.

The chairs were purchased by order of the Grand Lodge, at \$18 per dozen, to which freight, etc., is to be added.

The rooms in the basement are, at present, under rent to good tenants, at \$6 and \$10 per month. Part of last year one room was vacant. Prior to its becoming vacant, it was occupied by a widow lady, at \$6 per month. Depending upon her needle for support, she told the undersigned that she was unable to pay the rent. There being no demand then for such rooms, the undersigned told her to remain and he would become responsible for the rent, not doubting that he could raise the rent among the brethren, or that the Grand Lodge would permit him to balance her account upon the ledger, as she was not only a poor widow, but the widow of a Master Mason, Bro. J. A. S., who was killed by the tornado of 1840. The balance due is \$66.

The Grand Lodge at the last Grand Annual Communication requested John A. Wilcox, former W. M. of St. John's Lodge, to draw his order on Bro. Wm. H. Lott, late Treasurer of that Lodge, for the balance in his hands, supposed to be about \$130 or \$140, in part payment of the dues of St. John's Lodge to the Grand Lodge, amounting to \$312. Bro. Lott subsequently paid \$100 of the amount over to Bro. Wilcox in person, though notified that the undersigned held the order for the amount. The undersigned wrote to Bro. Wilcox upon the subject immediately, and requested him to remit the amount, but has received, as yet, no answer. The undersigned did not pursue the subject further, as Bro. Wilcox could alone explain the matter. The undersigned submits the correspondence with Bros. Lott and Wilcox, and with Bro. W. P. Baugn, the Secretary of said Lodge, to show why the money has not been collected.*

The undersigned received by mail during the past year, fifty-three remittances, an unusual number, owing to the small representation last Grand Communication. He is informed that four others were made, but which, as the records of the post-office department show, never reached Natchez, to-wit: \$40, on account of Evergreen Lodge, No. 77, forwarded by the Secretary, Bro. E. Bradshaw, on 23d July, as certified by the post-master at Decatur, to the undersigned; \$30 for a dispensation for a new Lodge at Tchula, which Bro. James S. Meng states that he remitted April 13th, 1849. He failed to obtain the post-master's certificate of the money enclosed, but the high standing of Dr. Meng would preclude all doubt of the fact. The post-office records at Tchula show that a double letter was sent from Tchula directed to Natchez on that day. By the certificate of the post-master at Kosciusko, Dr. Barton Evans sent on the 26th March, \$30 for dispensation for Bethel Lodge, at Burkettsville, directed to "Grand Secretary, Grand Lodge of Mississippi, Natchez." Bro. William Beacham, of Fulton, wrote to the undersigned, under date of October 13th, that he had remitted "some two months before, a petition for a dispensation." I wrote to him, that if he had enclosed any money, as was to be presumed from a petition being enclosed, to send me a copy of post-bill immediately, that the post-office department might be advised of the loss. His reply

* Since the report was made, the Grand Secretary has received from Bro. Wilcox, a letter enclosing an account against St. John's Lodge, for \$81, paid by him on the 6th of February, 1849, to Campbell and Shepherd, and Bro. Wilcox states also that he had assumed a debt to Bro. Huckworth for \$25. Which will cover more than the whole amount received by him.

of the 3d January, makes no mention of the post-bill, but encloses duplicate petition, and states that in the lost letter were \$30. For the want of the post-bill, the undersigned has been unable to obtain the certificate of the post-master at Natchez, that no such letter was received at the post-office at Natchez, as in the other cases mentioned. The Post-Master General was duly informed of the first three missing letters above mentioned, and the undersigned received for answer, that a special agent would be sent to Mississippi to investigate the matter, and if successful would report to the undersigned. The agent has not yet reported.

Knowing that there would be many remittances by mail during the year, the undersigned advised those Lodges which were in arrears, that remittances, if accompanied with the post-master's certificate of the amount enclosed, might be made by mail at the risk of the Grand Lodge; but that otherwise they would be at the risk of those remitting. In the case of Evergreen Lodge, No. 77, and Bethel Lodge, U. D., certificates of the post-masters are on file. In the other cases, that precaution was not taken. The undersigned suggests the propriety of the Grand Lodge, upon being satisfied, through the proper committee, or otherwise, that the facts are as above stated, to authorize the Grand Secretary to enter a remittance of \$30 to Bethel, and \$40 to Evergreen Lodge, No. 77, on the Ledger.

Locke Lodge, No. 52, surrendered its charter on 29th November last, and paid all its dues. The members have generally united with Harmony Lodge, No. 1, and Andrew Jackson, No. 2—eight members joining Harmony, and seven joining Andrew Jackson. As these members united with these Lodges on the last night of the Masonic year, and were paid for as members of Locke Lodge for that year, and were admitted to membership without pay into the other Lodges, these Lodges ask that they be not charged the usual fee for membership on their account, for 1849.

In the cases before the Committee on Complaints and Appeals last year, and not finally determined, viz: Macon Lodge, No. 40, against John S. Russell; J. W. Speight's appeal from Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, in the case against Thomas Coopwood; Holmesville Lodge, No. 69, against James Kenna; Jos. U. Jones from Jos. Warren Lodge, No. 71; A. B. Jewell from Belmont Lodge, No. 90; and John W. Chester from Marion Lodge, No. 62; all the parties interested were duly notified by the undersigned, immediately after the adjournment of the Grand Lodge, of the action of your body in their respective cases. In the case of Belmont Lodge, No. 90, against A. B. Jewell, additional papers have been received and are herewith submitted. In that of Holmesville, No. 79, against James Kenna, late W. M. of that Lodge, the Lodge petitions to withdraw the charges.

Oxford Lodge, No. 33, has filed a complaint against Silas Brown Lodge, No. 65, and Chulahoma, No. 55, for infringement of jurisdiction. By the resolution of Oxford Lodge, the Secretary of that Lodge was required to notify the Lodges complained against of the charges being filed against them, by forwarding copies to them of the resolutions herewith submitted.

The undersigned presents herewith a communication from Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, on the subject of education; and a memorial or petition from Bro. Doty, late Grand Lecturer.

The undersigned has also the honor to present a new Text-Book and a communication from the Grand Lodge of Virginia, recommending its adoption by all the Grand Lodges, and generously offering to present the copy-right to such Grand Lodges as may choose to adopt it, which right to extend throughout the jurisdiction of such Grand Lodges. The book is the result of the labors of our old and highly intelligent brother, Dr. Dove, for many years Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Virginia. The work in Virginia and the old work in Mississippi vary but little; the most important difference which the undersigned has noted, is the conferring in Virginia the degrees of Past Master upon the Wardens of Subordinate Lodges. [A.]

A communication from Geo. Watterson, Esq., Secretary of the Board of Managers of the Washington National Monument Society, he has also the honor to submit, and to call the attention of the Grand Lodge, to a resolution of the Board of Managers, requesting that arrangements be made by this Grand Lodge to obtain such periodical contributions as they may deem proper, to be applied to the erection of the Washington National Monument, until the same shall be completed.

The undersigned regrets that he has the unpleasant duty to announce the death, during the past year, of our highly distinguished friend and brother, Gen. Thomas P. Falconer, R.: W.: Past Deputy Grand Master; and of the gallant soldier and worthy brother, Lt. George R. Kiger, R.: W.: Grand Senior Deacon. The undersigned will not anticipate the deserved eulogy which the characters of our departed brothers will receive from the proper Committee of the Grand Lodge, by any remarks of his own.

The final report of the Lottery Managers is herewith presented. The contract with Mr. C. F. Hatcher is terminated, and no more drawings will be made.

The petition of Bros. Wm. H. McCargo, Jesse S. Tillman, T. W. Goodrich, S. Watson, B. Watson, B. B. Buchanan, W. Goodrich, A. L. Stephenson and J. W. Stamps, for a new Lodge, to be called Centre Hill, in the county of DeSoto, the point not designated, is also presented. The petitioners have been advised that it is necessary to name the place at which they wish to open the Lodge.

Also, the petition of Wm. Beacham, John W. Jackson, Albert James, A. A. Bullard, G. W. Williams, B. F. Chastine, A. W. Hardy, James Bromley, C. C. Glover and E. L. Hawkins, to form a new Lodge in the town of Fulton, Itawamba county.

Respectfully submitted,
WM. P. MELLEEN, Grand Secretary.

[A.]

IN THE GRAND LODGE OF VIRGINIA,)
DECEMBER 13, A. D., 1848.)

Resolved, That a copy of the Masonic Text-Book be presented respectfully to each of the Grand Lodges of the United States.

Resolved, That any Grand Lodge in the United States, if she shall think fit, may, on application, be invested with the copyright of the same for her jurisdiction.

RICHMOND, May, 1849.

R.: W.: *Sir and Brother*:

In obedience to the above resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, I have the pleasure to forward by this mail, a copy of the Masonic Text-Book to the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, and to ask their acceptance.

That they may understand the object intended to be accomplished, permit me to ask an attentive perusal of it, and thorough investigation and criticism of its several parts as enumerated in the preface, and communicate to me the result of their deliberations, (typographical errors and style of execution excepted.)

1st. The Compendium of Masonic History is intended to excite in the fraternity a desire for more extended knowledge of its most interesting progress through the various ages of antiquity up to the realization of its incalculable benefit to mankind at the present time.

2d. The Ahiman Rezon or Book of Constitutions, shows to the Craft, those laws which operate alike in the four quarters of the globe, and which no man, or set of men, being Masons, may disobey or countenance a deviation from.

3d. A History of the Organization of Grand Lodges, ending with the Grand Lodge of Virginia. This you will, of course, adapt to your own Grand Lodge.

4th. The Manual of the three first Degrees as taught by Webb and others, for the last hundred years, including the Order of Past Master, containing the several Masonic Ceremonies of Installation, etc.

5th. A Methodical Digest of the Laws regulating the action of Grand Lodges as drawn from the Ahiman Rezon, and carried out in their adaptation to all the behests of Masonry as practiced in this country; and,

6th. A full copy of the Code of By-Laws necessary for the government of Subordinate Lodges.

The adoption of such a work by each Grand Lodge in the several States to operate as a Manual in their jurisdictions, each depositing a copy with the other, would go farther to establish uniformity of work and legislation than any plan which could be possibly devised, and at a cost which would, in fact, be a source of income to the Grand Charity Fund of each Grand Lodge, and in a very short time have the still more desirable effect of substituting such a work for all others upon the subject, none being deemed genuine thereafter but those issued by authority of each Grand Lodge.

Be good enough to acknowledge the receipt hereof, and believe me,

Respectfully and fraternally yours,

JOHN DOVE, Grand Secretary,
of the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

To R. W. Wm. P. Mellen, Grand Secretary of Grand Lodge of Mississippi.

The Grand Secretary's account current showed the receipts to have been \$4,092 52, which sum, less \$910 32, Grand Secretary's fee, and other expenditures made by him, had been paid over to the Grand Treasurer.

On motion, the account and the subjects in the report relative to the lost money transmitted by mail, and to St. John's Lodge dues, were referred to the Standing Committee on Accounts; the matters relating to complaints and appeals, to the Standing Committee on Complaints and Appeals; that touching Harmony and Andrew Jackson Lodges, to Committee on Subordinate Lodges; and the petitions for new Lodges, to the Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation.

The Grand Treasurer, Bro. George I. Dicks, presented his Annual Account, which corresponded with the Grand Secretary's account and was referred, on motion, to the Committee on Accounts.

The Grand Master appointed the following named brethren on the Standing Committees:

On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. John F. Cushman, James E. Watts, P. J. Myers, W. T. Martin, W. T. Powell, J. Pearson Smith and W. W. Hereford.

On Subordinate Lodges—Bros. H. M. Youngblood, W. C. Chamberlain, Thos. J. Hawkins, W. W. Cook, S. B. Jones, Jas. R. Brantley and Jas. A. Chapman.

On Unfinished Business—Bros. T. W. Caskey, J. E. Mattingley and F. J. Poor.

On Accounts—Bros. G. L. C. Davis, John R. Dickens and James Aitkin.

On Lodges Under Dispensation—Bros. Charles S. Spann, Richard Cooper, Wm. Biggs, J. O. Lusher, L. B. Baines, F. Bostwick and Henry C. Robinson.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence consists of Grand Secretary as Chairman, G. S. and J. Wardens and Grand Treasurer, by a standing regulation.

On motion of Bro. Cooper,

Resolved, That so much of the Grand Master's address and Grand Secretary's report, as relates to the death of our Bro. Lt. George R. Kiger, Grand Senior Deacon, be referred to a special committee of three.

To compose said committee, the Grand Master appointed Bros. Cooper, Hawkins and Poor.

On motion of Rev. Bro. Morris,

Resolved, That so much of the Grand Secretary's report as relates to the death of Bro. Gen. Thomas P. Falconer, Past Deputy Grand Master, be referred to a special committee of three.

Bros. Morris, Estes and Chapman, were appointed by the Grand Master on said committee.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 7 o'clock, p. m.

MONDAY, 4th February, 1850, 7 o'clock, p. m.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Representatives of Lodges as in the morning, with the following :

Quitman, No. 18—J. C. Crawford.

Liberty, No. 37—Hamilton McKnight.

Pythagorean, No. 48—D. R. Doyle.

And Jos. Deutsch, Past Master.

Bro. Rowlett presented a resolution of Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, instructing the representatives of said Lodge to use their best exertions to have a uniform system of By-Laws adopted and published for the use of the Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Cooper moved to instruct the Committee on Subordinate Lodges to report a set of By-Laws for Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. Youngblood, the Vicksburg resolution and motion made by Bro. Cooper, were laid upon the table.

Bro. Watts offered the following:

Resolved, That the dues of Wilson Lodge, No. 72, for the years 1847 and 1848, be remitted.

Which was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Poor presented certain resolutions of Washington Lodge, No. 3, in relation to the resolutions adopted at the last Grand Annual Communication, requiring the Subordinate Lodges to request contributions from non-affiliated brethren; and he also presented, in accordance therewith, his protest against the action of the Grand Lodge, in adopting the said resolutions and against the further enforcement of the same.

On motion of Bro. McLelland, the resolutions of Washington Lodge, No. 3, and the protest of Bro. Poor, were referred to a committee of five.

The Grand Master appointed on said committee, Bros. McLelland, Springer, Cooper, Cothran and Rowe.

Bro. Callahan offered the following:

Resolved, That Sharon Lodge be allowed until our next Grand Annual Communication to pay her dues.

Which was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Moody offered the following:

Resolved, That Lafayette Lodge, No. 53, be allowed sixty days to pay her dues for 1849, and that the sum of five dollars be remitted for 1848, for brethren erroneously returned as members by said Lodge to the Grand Lodge, at the Grand Annual Communication in February, 1849.

Which was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Cooper presented the following, and, on his motion, it was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges:

Resolved, That the dues of Westville Lodge, No. 78, be remitted.

Bro. Steele presented an application on the part of Pikeville Lodge, No. 85, for remission of dues, which was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Hawkins presented a memorial of Gallatin Lodge, No. 25, which, on his motion, was referred to a special committee.

The Grand Master appointed on said committee, Bros. Cook, Hawkins and Deutsch.

Bro. McCaskey presented an application on the behalf of Malone Lodge, No. 101, for remission of dues, which was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Brantley made a similar application on behalf of Greensboro' Lodge, No. 49; referred to same committee.

On motion of Rev. Bro. Morris, Bro. Watts was added to the special committee on the death of Past Deputy Grand Master, Gen. Thomas P. Falconer, when Bro. Morris presented the following:

That the deceased has been for more than twenty years, a zealous and useful member of our Ancient Order; that his virtues as a citizen, his merits as a neighbor, and his liberal and affectionate disposition attached him to all who knew him; therefore,

Resolved, That in his death our Order has been bereaved of one whose uniform Masonic virtues in the past, gave promise of a long and useful career to come.

2d. That we sympathize with the family of the deceased in their great loss, and that the Grand Secretary be requested to communicate to them a copy of these resolutions.

R. MORRIS, Chairman.

BENJ. ESTES,

JAMES A. CHAPMAN,

JAMES E. WATTS.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Watts offered the following, which was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Resolved, That Willis Lodge, No. 92, be allowed until the first day of April next to pay her dues.

Bro. Hawkins presented a petition from the members of Trinity Lodge, No. 88, for a remission of the dues of that Lodge, on the ground that during the past year they had erected at Kosciusko a building for a Female Institute, at a heavy cost, which had been paid by contributions from members of that Lodge alone; and have employed teachers at high salaries, who will be paid entirely by the petitioners.

The petition was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The Deputy Grand Master, Bro. Walker, presented a petition from Chulahoma Lodge, No. 55, for remission of dues for 1848 and 1849, on account of being obliged to build a new Hall.

On motion, referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Chapman offered the following:

Resolved, That Sterling Lodge, No. 54, be allowed until the next Annual Communication to pay her dues.

On motion of Bro. Steele, the resolution was amended by inserting after Sterling Lodge, No. 54, Aberdeen, No. 32, and Houston, No. 67; when, on motion, the resolution was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. McLelland offered the following:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge go into the election of officers on to-morrow at 3 o'clock, P. M.

But on motion of Bro. Youngblood, "3 o'clock, P. M." was stricken out, and "11 o'clock, A. M." inserted, and then the resolution was adopted as amended.

Bro. Hawkins presented a memorial on behalf of Eureka Lodge, No. 61, asking a remission of dues, on account of being much pressed by the erection of the college building at Richland, which has been completed, and the college at this time in successful operation.

Which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Cooper offered the following as an amendment to the Constitution:

Resolved, That the 3d section of the 5th article of the Constitution be amended so as to read as follows:

"No Subordinate Lodge shall initiate, pass to the degree of Fellow Craft, or raise to the sublime degree of Master Mason, any applicant, unless the vote be unanimous in his favor, except in cases where there shall be but one negative vote; and when it shall appear on ballot, that but one negative vote is cast, the W. M. shall request the brother who voted in the negative, to state his reasons to the Lodge, whereupon, the reasons being stated, a second ballot shall be had, and if upon such second ballot there shall be but one negative vote, the candidate shall be declared duly elected. And when the reasons shall be demanded as aforesaid, if the brother casting the negative vote shall refuse to make known his reasons, the candidate shall be deemed duly elected notwithstanding such negative vote, but in all cases whenever there shall be more than one negative vote, the application shall be rejected."

Which was, on motion, laid upon the table.

The Committee on Unfinished Business reported that upon an examination of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge at the last Annual Communication thereof, they are unable to find anything which requires the further action of the Grand Lodge, except the amendment offered to the 3d section of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, which is subjoined.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Resolved, That the 3d section of the 3d article of the Constitution be so amended, as to read that hereafter, "every Subordinate Lodge shall pay into the Treasury of the Grand Lodge, annually, the following contributions, to-wit: for every degree conferred upon candidates the preceding year, the sum of one dollar; for every member, the sum of fifty cents."

On motion, the report was received and agreed to; and on motion of Bro. Steele, the proposed amendment to the Constitution was made the order of the day for 10 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

Bro. McLelland offered the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will attend the delivery of a Masonic discourse by the Grand Chaplain, on Wednesday next, at — o'clock.

Which, on motion of Bro. Youngblood, was laid upon the table.

Bro. S. B. Jones offered the following, and on his motion, it was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges:

WHEREAS, Salem Lodge, No. 45, has not been represented in this Grand

Lodge during the past two years, and owing to the necessitous situation of said Lodge in her pecuniary resources, petitioned the Grand Lodge to remit her dues, which prayer was not granted by the said Grand Lodge; therefore,

Resolved, That the usual allowance of per diem and mileage for the two sessions, amounting to \$100, be and the same is hereby donated to the education fund of Salem Lodge, No. 45.

On motion of Rev. Bro. Morris, the communication from the Board of Managers of the Washington National Monument Society, and the resolutions of Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, on education, were referred to a committee of three.

The Grand Master appointed Bros. Morris, Jones and Meek, on said committee.

On motion of Bro. Martin, Bro. J. J. Doty's memorial was referred to a committee of three.

The Grand Master appointed Bros. Martin, Rowe and Poor on said committee.

On motion of Bro. McLelland, the communication from the Grand Lodge of Virginia, on the subject of Bro. Dove's Text-Book, was referred to a special committee.

The Grand Master appointed Bros. McLelland, Hawkins and Youngblood, on said committee.

On motion of Bro. Hawkins, the Past Grand Master of Missouri, Bro. J. W. S. Mitchell, was invited to address the Grand Lodge.

After the address, and prayer by the Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge adjourned till 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

TUESDAY, February 5, 1850, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Present as on yesterday, with the following: North Mount Pleasant Lodge, No. 99—John S. Henry.

Prayer by Grand Chaplain.

Bro. Cooper presented the following report of special committee on the death of Grand Senior Deacon, Bro. George R. Kiger:

The undersigned Committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address and Grand Secretary's report, as relates to the death of Bro. George R. Kiger, Grand Senior Deacon of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, respectfully submit the following report:

WHEREAS, In the dispensation of Divine Providence, another of the Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge has been called from his labors on earth to enjoy uninterrupted repose in another and a better world; and

WHEREAS, This Grand Lodge is desirous of paying a suitable tribute of respect to the memory of our departed brother;

Resolved, That in the death of Bro. George R. Kiger, this Grand Lodge has been bereaved of a zealous and active member; the fraternity, a beloved and worthy brother; and the community, of an honorable and exemplary citizen.

Resolved, That the circumstances of his death* remind us that sooner or later, some casualty or disease will terminate our existence, and that it is our

* Bro. Kiger was killed by an accidental discharge of a pistol in the pocket of another individual.—G. S.

duty as Masons to imitate his virtues, so that when called by the Grand Master of the Universe from our labor on earth, we may be prepared to enjoy eternal refreshment in Heaven.

Resolved, That as a token of respect to Bro. Kiger, the officers and members of this Grand Lodge will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

RICHARD COOPER,
THOS. J. HAWKINS,
FRED. J. POOR,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Cook presented the following report of special committee on memorial of Gallatin Lodge, No. 25 :

The undersigned Committee to whom was referred the memorial of Gallatin Lodge, No. 25, in relation to Marcellus J. Howard, who was expelled by said Lodge, have had the same under consideration, and recommend to the Grand Lodge the adoption of the following resolution, to-wit :

Resolved, That Marcellus J. Howard be, and he is hereby, restored to all the rights and privileges of Ancient Free and Accepted Masonry.

W. W. COOK,
THOS. J. HAWKINS,
JOS. DEUTSCH.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

Bro. Youngblood offered the following :

WHEREAS, We have been informed that the unfortunate difficulty which has heretofore existed in our sister State of Louisiana, is now progressing toward an amicable adjustment, and, in all probability, will be speedily and satisfactorily arranged. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That as soon as a reconciliation shall have taken place between the old and new Grand Lodges of the State of Louisiana, the resolution of this Grand Lodge, passed at its last Grand Annual Communication, interdicting Masonic intercourse with the old Grand Lodge, shall cease and determine.

Which, on motion, was laid upon the table.

The order of the day for 10 o'clock, A. M., being the following proposed amendment to the Constitution, was then called up for consideration and final action.

Resolved, That the third section of the third article of the Constitution, be so amended as to read: "That hereafter every Subordinate Lodge shall pay into the treasury of the Grand Lodge annually, the following contributions, to-wit: for every degree conferred upon candidates the preceding year, the sum of one dollar; for every member, the sum of fifty cents.

The question being upon the adoption of the amendment, upon the call of the roll, resulted as follows: ayes, 184; noes, 4. The amendment to the Constitution was adopted.

Bro. Martin presented the following report of special committee on Bro. J. J. Doty's memorial:

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Bro. J. J. Doty, asking for compensation from the Grand Lodge, for services as Grand Lecturer for the year 1846, beg leave to report that they have examined the same with care, and can see no valid reason for allowing the prayer of the petitioner. By the 10th section, article 1, of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, it is expressly provided, that the compensation of the Grand Lecturer shall be paid by the

Subordinate Lodges, and that section, by implication at least, expresses an unwillingness on the part of the Grand Lodge, to assume the payment of such claims as the one under consideration. The petitioner sets out a promise on the part of Grand Master Quitman, which it is contended is of some force in binding this Grand Lodge to pay some compensation to petitioner. The letter of Bro. Quitman which accompanies the petition, negatives such a promise. Your committee are not satisfied that a Grand Master possesses the power thus to forestall the action of the Grand Lodge, and believe that no Grand Master has yet done so.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM T. MARTIN,
FRED J. POOR,
A. V. ROWE.

On motion, the report was received, and, subsequently, agreed to.

Bro. Youngblood, on behalf of Thomas Hinds Lodge, No. 58, presented a protest against the action of the Grand Lodge, at the Grand Annual Communication, on the subject of non-affiliated brethren; which, on motion, was referred to the same select committee to which was referred to the resolution, etc., of Washington Lodge, No. 3, and Bro. Poor's protest.

On motion of Rev. Bro. Morris, Bros. Taylor and Cushman were added to the Committee on Education. Bro. Cooper, at his own request, was excused from acting on the special committee upon the subject of non-affiliated brethren, and Bro. Scott was added thereto.

On motion of Rev. Bro. Morris:

Resolved, That a seat and suitable accommodations be furnished during the the Communication, to Bro. C. Moore, Editor of the Masonic Review, for purpose of taking notes of the proceedings.

The Order of the Day for 11 o'clock, A. M., being the election of the Grand Officers, for the ensuing year, the Grand Lodge proceeded to the election, with the following results.

M. W. CHARLES SCOTT.....	Grand Master.
R. W. AARON V. ROWE.....	Grand Senior Warden.
BENJ. ESTES.....	Grand Junior Warden.
REV. J. J. MEEK.....	Grand Chaplain.

On motion, the election of the other officers was postponed, and the Grand Master elect was installed by the Grand Master, Charles A. Lacoste.

The newly installed Grand Master, then appointed Bro. Jos. O. Walker, Deputy Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, 5th February, 1850, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT:

M. W. CHARLES SCOTT.....	Grand Master.
R. W. JOS. O. WALKER.....	Deputy Grand Master.
BENJ. SPRINGER.....	Grand Senior Warden.

CHARLES S. SPANN.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
REV. ROBERT MORRIS.....	Grand Chaplain.
J. S. B. THACHER.....	Grand Orator.
GEORGE I. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
T. J. HAWKINS.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
WM. T. MARTIN.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
CHARLES GOUVENEUX.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
H. S. KELLEY.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Past Grand Officers, Past Masters and Representatives of Subordinate Lodges, the same as in the morning.

The Grand Lodge proceeded with the election of Grand Officers, with the following result:

R. W. JOHN F. CUSHMAN.....	Grand Orator.
GEORGE I. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
WM. T. MARTIN.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
C. T. BOND.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
J. O. LUSHER.....	Grand Marshal.
JAMES A. CHAPMAN.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
GEO. N. LANGFORD, JR.....	Grand Pursuivant.
ANSEL H. KENDRICK.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

On motion of Bro. Cushman,

Resolved, That the Grand Officers elect be installed to-morrow at 4 o'clock, p. m., and that then the Grand Lodge close its present Communication, if through with its business.

On motion of Bro. Youngblood,

Resolved, That the Grand Master is hereby requested and empowered to call a convocation of the present officers of this Grand Lodge, together with the Past Grand and Deputy Grand Masters, the Past Grand and Deputy Grand Wardens, and the Masters of the Subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction, at such time and place as he may designate, for the purpose of establishing a uniformity of work in the several Subordinate Lodges.

Resolved, That the expenses of the persons incurred in attending such Convocation, shall be paid out of the Grand Treasury, according to the rates of allowance for Representatives to the Grand Lodge.

Bro. C. T. Bond presented memorial of Joseph Warren Lodge, No. 71, which was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Morris offered the following:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to have printed a sufficient number of copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge at the present Communication to be distributed according to the usual custom.

On motion of Bro. Cooper, the words "a sufficient number," were stricken out, and "six hundred" inserted, and the resolution was adopted as amended.

On motion of Bro. Biggs,

Resolved, That the resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge at the last Grand Annual Communication, passed on the 18th January, to appoint a Grand Lecturer, be rescinded.

Bro. Hanson presented the proposition of Mr. C. F. Hatcher, offering to pay the sum of five hundred dollars per annum for five years, for the privilege of drawing the Grand Lodge Lottery, and proposing to give satisfactory security, etc.

On motion, the proposition was laid upon the table by an unanimous vote.

On motion of Bro. Langford,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to our Past Grand Master, Charles A. Lacoste, and his associate Grand Officers, for the able, dignified and impartial manner in which they discharged their important and responsible duties.

Bro. Callahan offered the following as an amendment to the Constitution :

Resolved, That the 8th section of the first article of the Constitution be amended by striking out the word "Natchez," in the first line, and insert the word "Jackson."

Which, on motion, was laid upon the table, and made the order of the day for 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

Bro. Dickens presented the following report :

The Committee on Accounts beg leave to report that they have examined the Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's accounts, and find them sustained by the proper vouchers.

In relation to the matter of Bro. Wilcox's draft on the late Treasurer of St. John's Lodge, and the matter of the money remitted by mail and lost, mentioned in the Grand Secretary's Annual Report, after a careful examination of the papers referred to them, they express their opinions in the following resolutions, which they recommend for adoption by the Grand Lodge:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to continue his efforts to collect the amount due to the Grand Lodge from St. John's Lodge, and report to the Grand Lodge at the next Grand Annual Communication.

2. That the Grand Secretary be instructed to credit Evergreen Lodge, No. 77, with the sum of forty dollars; and Bethel Lodge, with thirty dollars.

*3. That the Grand Secretary be instructed to credit Mrs. Ann Smith's account with sixty-six dollars, being balance due for rent.

The committee would add that they entertain no doubt that the money was sent as stated in the case of the Tchula petitioners, nor have they any reason to suppose otherwise in the case of the Fulton petitioners. In that of the Tchula petitioners, the postmaster at Tchula certifies that a double letter, contents unknown, was mailed for Natchez on the day specified by the petitioners. In that of the Fulton petitioners, no certificate from the postmaster at Fulton, of the letter or its contents, not even the date of mailing, has ever been furnished by him or the petitioners, so that no certificate of the postmaster at Natchez could be obtained as in the other cases. In those other cases, his certificate shows conclusively that no such letters ever came to the Natchez postoffice.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN R. DICKENS,
JAMES AITKEN,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to and resolutions adopted.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, 6th February, 1850, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Past Grand Officers, Past Masters and Representatives present as before, with the following:

Grand Gulf, No. 41—James C. Patrick.

Asylum, No. 63—Henry Strong.

Coffeerville, No. 83—D. L. Herron.

Prayer by Rev. Bro. Caskey.

The order of the day, being the amendment to the Constitution offered by Bro. Callahan, to amend the Constitution by striking out "Natchez" from 8th Section, 1st Article, and inserting "Jackson," was considered.

Bro. Martin moved to strike out "Jackson," which motion was laid upon the table.

And then, on his motion, the proposed amendment to the Constitution was indefinitely postponed.

Bro. Martin moved to reconsider the motion to indefinitely postpone, which was lost.

Rev. Bro. Morris presented the following report:

The Committee to whom was referred the communication on Education from Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, also the communication from Washington Monument Association, beg leave to report: That the subject of Education has always called forth the approving sentiments of the Grand Lodge. With a unanimity not often to be met with in regard to other objects, this worshipful body has assented to the views of the philosophical educators; that to educate the children of her members for usefulness and honor, is the primary duty of every permanent organization. Your committee, therefore, referring to the proceedings of past Grand Communications, take it for settled, that this Grand Lodge is the friend of education.

But to prepare a plan that shall meet the general approbation and harmonize all views, is a task which your committee deem almost insuperable. It is always safe, however, to call to our aid the views of Subordinate Lodges. Having time at their convenience, and their own pecuniary condition before their minds, they can duly weigh and carefully consider how far the subject of Masonic Schools is applicable to our condition in Mississippi.

Your committee, therefore, report the following resolutions, as the sense of this Grand Lodge:

Resolved, That the Lodges subordinate to this Grand Lodge be requested to instruct their delegates to the next Grand Annual Communication, what are their respective views as to a Masonic Institute of Mississippi; also to state, whether their choice is for one well-endowed Institute, or for Academies and Common Schools under the control of the Subordinate Lodges respectively; also to state, what number of scholarships up to a certain amount, they would be willing to purchase in a Grand Lodge Institute as aforesaid.

On the subject of the Washington National Monument the committee report the following:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge donates one hundred dollars, with her warm sympathy and hearty congratulations, to the Washington National Monument.

Respectfully submitted,

R. MORRIS, Chairman.
J. F. CUSHMAN,
B. L. JONES,
W. H. TAYLOR,
J. J. MEEK.

On motion of Bro. Hawkins, the report was received.

On motion of Bro. Martin, agreed to so far as it relates to Education; he then moved that the remainder of the report be agreed to.

Bro. Youngblood offered the following, as an amendment to the last resolution reported :

Resolved, That each member of this Grand Lodge present, be requested to contribute two dollars to the Washington National Monument.

Bro. Cushman moved the previous question, and the motion being sustained, the question was taken upon agreeing to that portion of the report relating to the Washington Monument, and decided in the affirmative.

The whole report was agreed to and the resolutions adopted.

Bro. Rowlett presented an appeal from Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, upon a decision of the W. M. of that Lodge, Bro. Springer. The question was upon the adoption of the minutes of the Lodge at the preceding regular meeting and "adjourned (called) meetings." A motion was made that the minutes be adopted, except certain portions, the effect being to expunge a portion of the actual proceedings properly entered upon the minutes. The W. M. decided the motion to be out of order. An appeal was made to the Lodge, which the Worshipful Master decided to be also out of order. Whereupon, appeal was made to the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Cushman presented the following reports of Committee on Complaints and Appeals :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals beg leave to report : That they have had under consideration the appeal of John F. Chester, from the decision of Marion Lodge, No. 62, suspending him from said Lodge, and cannot find anything in the proceedings had in the case, to justify your committee in disturbing the order of said Marion Lodge in suspending Bro. Chester, and therefore recommend that the decision of said Lodge be confirmed.

J. F. CUSHMAN,
WILLIAM T. MARTIN,
J. E. WATTS,
P. J. MYER,

WM. S. POWELL,
J. PEARSON SMITH,
WM. W. HEREFORD,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

In the case of the appeal of A. B. Jewell, from the decision of expulsion by Belmont Lodge, No. 90, the committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That in the case of the appeal of Bro. A. B. Jewell from the decision of Belmont Lodge, No. 90, expelling him from the same, the Grand Lodge without impugning the course pursued by said Belmont Lodge, but in view of the punishment already suffered by Bro. Jewell, and the good conduct of said brother since said expulsion, do now restore said Bro. Jewell to his Masonic rights from this date.

J. F. CUSHMAN,

And all the Members of the Committee.

On motion, the report was received.

On motion of Bro. Youngblood, the resolution reported was amended, by striking out all after the word "same" in 3d line, and inserting, "the whole matter be referred to Oxford Lodge, No. 33, with instructions to examine the same, and if on examination, it shall appear that there are just grounds for reinstating Mr. Jewell, he shall be restored to all the rights and privileges of Freemasonry."

The resolution, as amended, was adopted, and the report was then agreed to. In the case of James Kenna, late Master of Holmesville Lodge, No. 69, and

the petition accompanying the same, praying to withdraw the case from the consideration of the Grand Lodge; your committee recommend that the prayer of the petitioner be granted, and that Bro. Kenna be restored to his former standing in Holmeville Lodge, No. 69.

In the case of B. T. Brooks, upon appeal from the decision of Oakland Lodge No. 82, expelling said Brooks from the rights and benefits of Masonry, your committee beg leave to report, that they believe said expulsion was justifiable, and, therefore, recommend that the decision of Oakland Lodge be confirmed, and that said Brooks be published in the newspapers as an expelled member of the Masonic fraternity.

In the case of J. N. Jones, from Jos. Warren Lodge, No. 71, beg leave to report, that there is nothing in the proceedings of said cause as brought up to the Grand Lodge, to justify them in acting on it, and, therefore, beg to be discharged from further consideration of the same.

In the case of Bro. John H. Russell, from Macon Lodge, No. 40, your committee cannot act, from the fact, that there is no evidence on file, or anything upon which your committee could make a recommendation, and, therefore, beg to be discharged from the further consideration of the same.

In the case of the petition of Michael J. C. Quinan, your committee cannot find anything upon which to take any action, and, therefore, pray to be discharged from the further consideration of the same.

J. F. CUSHMAN,

And all the Members of the Committee.

On motion, the report was received.

Bro. Herron moved that the report be recommitted, with instructions to amend the same, so far as to send the case of B. T. C. Brooks back to Oakland Lodge, No. 82.

Which motion did not prevail. The report was then agreed to.

Bro. Martin moved to reconsider the vote agreeing to the report, but the Grand Lodge refused to reconsider.

In the case of the complaint of Oxford Lodge, No. 33, against Silas Brown, Pearl and Chulahoma Lodges, for improperly initiating, passing, and raising candidates living out of their jurisdiction; your Committee are not prepared to recommend any action by the Grand Lodge; and as it regards Silas Brown Lodge, No. 65, that your Committee find has already received the action of the Grand Lodge.

J. F. CUSHMAN,

And all the members of the Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Chamberlin, the resolution adopted on yesterday, which was offered by Bro. Youngblood, requesting the Grand Master to call a convocation of the Past Grand Officers and the Present Grand Officers, and the Masters of the several Subordinate Lodges, for instruction in work, were reconsidered and indefinitely postponed.

Bro. Patrick presented an amendment to the By-Laws of Grand Gulf Lodge, which was referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. McLelland presented the following report:

The Committee to whom was referred a report of a committee, and resolutions of Washington Lodge, No. 3, and protest of said Lodge presented by Bro. F. J. Poor, and also the report and protest of Thomas Hinds Lodge, No. 50, presented by Bro. H. M. Youngblood, on the action of this Grand Lodge at the last Communication, on the subject of non-affiliated brethren, beg leave to report: That they have had the said reports, resolutions and protests under

consideration, and mature deliberation, and after having given them that consideration, reflection and examination that the subject required, and the source from which said reports, resolutions and protests came, demanded, they have arrived at the following conclusions, which are herewith presented:

Your Committee are of the opinion, that the principle held forth in the resolutions adopted at the last Communication of the Grand Lodge, in reference to non-affiliated brethren, is not in violation of any constitutional provision, or of the rights of those who are Masons; but, on the contrary, that they are in conformity to the same principle held by this Grand Lodge, long anterior to the adoption of the resolutions in question, which has never before been brought in question by any Lodge, member, or members of Lodges, or by any non-affiliated brethren within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, to-wit: the right to tax non-affiliated brethren. In support of this position, your Committee would refer you to one of the resolutions of this Grand Lodge, as set forth and published in its General and Permanent Regulations, page 11. If then the views of your Committee are right on this point—that the Grand Lodge has this right—it certainly will not for a moment be contended, but that she possesses unquestionably, the right to fix a penalty on those who refuse to pay the amount of tax imposed. This argument, your Committee is of the opinion, is sufficient to settle the constitutionality of the question, and the Committee might here drop the subject; but that the arguments presented, and the points taken by those who are opposed to the action of the Grand Lodge in question, may have all the respect and weight that they can to the utmost claim, your Committee will proceed further.

The principle taken and contended for by this Grand Lodge is precisely the same as occupied and held by the Grand Lodges of Maryland, North Carolina, Missouri, Wisconsin, Arkansas, and in all probability by other Grand Lodges not within the knowledge of your Committee. The power and right of the Grand Lodges just mentioned, seem not to have been questioned by any of the Lodges and brethren within their respective jurisdictions: at least, there appears no evidence of it, on the minutes of such Grand Lodges—it is reasonable to suppose, that there would have been, had the right been questioned.

Again, it is argued and contended in the documents referred to your Committee, that the Grand Lodge has not the power of raising the revenue of the Subordinate Lodges; and if so, that, of necessity, it must possess the right of disposing of their revenue. To this position taken, your Committee would respectfully state, that if the Grand Lodge possesses the right of taxing non-affiliated brethren, it certainly cannot be an infringement of the rights and privileges of Subordinate Lodges, to require the amount of that tax to be paid into the Treasuries of the Subordinate Lodges, and for their peculiar benefit. The Grand Lodge, most assuredly, has the right of saying and directing where the tax should be paid, whether into the Treasury of a Subordinate or the Grand Lodge. Until the Grand Lodge claims and attempts to exercise the right of disposing of the revenue of the Subordinate Lodges, farther than she has always claimed and exercised, and which has not been disputed by the Subordinate Lodges, but on the contrary, has always been cheerfully paid, your Committee is of the opinion that no uneasiness by the Subordinate Lodges should be entertained.

Again, it is contended in the documents referred to us, "that taxation without representation is a power which can only be tolerated under a despotism, and that its exercise is as antagonistical to the principles of enlightened Freemasonry, as it is to those of pure republicanism." That non-affiliated brethren have no voice or representation in the Lodges within whose jurisdiction they are located, therefore it is a gross act of injustice on the part of the Grand Lodge, contrary to the principles of Freemasonry and pure republicanism, to require such brethren to pay the amount specified in the resolutions in question.

Now at a slight view of the position here taken, there would seem to be a good deal of strength and force in it; but, when viewed closely, and with a

scrutinizing eye, it will at once be perceived, that the position is untenable, and that the resolutions of the Grand Lodge are not antagonistical to the principles of enlightened Freemasonry and pure republicanism. In the first place, non-affiliated brethren have hitherto enjoyed all the benefits, privileges and immunities of Masonry, within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, with the exception of the right of voting in a Subordinate Lodge or the Grand Lodge, and that, without having paid one cent for five, ten, fifteen, and, in some cases, twenty years, in support of that Institution which has extended to them these privileges, they are entitled to, and often receive the charity of the Lodges where they reside, and we are bound to extend it to them, their wives, widows and orphans. They are free from the burden of the Lodge room; they do not have imposed upon them any of the offices of the Lodge; in a word, they enjoy all the immunities and benefits, while they avoid performing any labor—even the least. They recline and rest under the beautiful tree of Masonry, and will not assist in watering it, that it may continue to live and afford them shelter. Membership is not denied them; they may, but will not invest themselves with the additional right of voting.

Again, these brethren receive not only the pecuniary benefits of Masonry, as much as any member of a Lodge, but they also receive all the honors of the Institution through life and after death. Not only so, but in their last expiring moments, they are consoled with the assurance, that their widows and little ones will be taken care of.

Again, the penalty inflicted on a member of a Subordinate Lodge, who refuses or neglects to pay his monthly or yearly dues, does not inflict a less penalty or less disgrace than that fixed in the resolutions of the Grand Lodge, enacted at the last session of the Grand Lodge. Your Committee cannot perceive that there is any more injustice in one of these cases, than in the other.

Your Committee are of the opinion, that the principle contended for on the part of the Grand Lodge, in reference to non-affiliated brethren, is precisely the same as that held and exercised by our Government in reference to those individuals who have enjoyed the benefits, immunities, and protection of our free institutions, for years, and yet will not take such steps as will give them the right of voting. There is no one who will for a moment contend, that this is contrary to true republicanism, and if not, your Committee cannot see that the other is; and, consequently, this position is equally as untenable as the other.

Your Committee readily admit the correctness of the position taken in the documents referred to them; that a member of a Lodge has the right of taking a dimit at any time, on his producing a receipt of the Treasurer for all dues; but they deny the correctness of the conclusions which are drawn therefrom.

To understand and comprehend a statute, we must look to the design and the object of the makers of that statute. There, unquestionably, was an object designed to be accomplished by this universal regulation of Masonry, and which your Committee believe was fully accomplished, and of a two-fold character. First, the removal of a member of the Lodge beyond the bounds of that Lodge; and in the second place, that he might unite in the constituting of a new Lodge, which, when constituted, would be more convenient to him. Your Committee therefore believe, that a dimit granted for any other purpose than one or the other of the two just mentioned, would be contrary to the spirit and letter of the law in reference to dimitts. If, therefore, your Committee are right in the views they entertain on this question, and they verily believe they are, the resolutions adopted by the Grand Lodge at its last Communication, are not unconstitutional, are not an infringement on any of the landmarks of the Order; not an infringement upon the rights of Subordinate Lodges, of the members of Lodges, nor of the non-affiliated brethren; that they are not antagonistical to the principles of enlightened Freemasonry, nor of those of pure republicanism, and that they do not violate any binding contract entered into by any Lodge with its members; but, on the contrary, they are of the opinion, that said resolutions are constitutional, in accordance with the ancient landmarks of the Order; that they are in accordance with the

principles of Freemasonry and pure republicanism; that they are right, prudent, and in accordance with strict justice.

Your Committee, in conclusion, would recommend the adoption of the following amendment: that the sum required of each non-affiliated brother be equal to the amount of the yearly dues of the members of Lodges, where such non-affiliated brother resides.

Your Committee would add, that in their opinion, in the Lodges of which they are members, the resolutions have worked well, and have accomplished the object in view, and, if carried out, will be successful throughout the bounds of this Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAS. B. McLELLAND,
BENJ. SPRINGER,
ROBERT MORRIS,
WM. COTHRAN,
A. V. ROWE,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received.

A motion to indefinitely postpone the further consideration of the report was lost.

Bro. Callahan moved to recommit the report, with instructions to report in place thereof the following:

Resolved, That the resolutions of the Grand Lodge imposing a tax on non-affiliated brethren be, and the same are hereby repealed.

Bro. Youngblood moved the following amendment to Bro. Callahan's resolution: Strike out after the word "Resolved," and insert:

"That the resolutions of the Grand Lodge passed at the last Grand Annual Communication, imposing a tax on non-affiliated brethren, be, and the same are hereby repealed, together with all resolutions now in force, or which have heretofore been passed, bearing on the subject."

The question being upon Bro. Youngblood's amendment, it was adopted; and the resolution of Bro. Callahan, as amended, was adopted; and the report, as amended, was agreed to.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, 6th February, 1850, A. L. 5850, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Bro. Cushman offered the following:

Resolved, That in view of the embarrassed condition of Oxford Lodge, No. 33, that the dues of said Lodge to this Grand Lodge, for the present Masonic year, be, and the same are hereby remitted by this Grand Lodge.

But the Grand Lodge refused to adopt it.

The Grand Master announced that his ill health would prevent him from presiding during the remainder of the Communication, and retired, after calling Bro. J. W. S. Mitchell, Past Grand Master of Missouri, to the Chair.

Bro. Cushman offered the following:

Resolved, That Oxford Lodge, No. 33, be allowed until the next Annual Communication to pay dues to this Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Cooper, the resolution was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. Rowlett,

Resolved, That the sum of fifty dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated to Mrs. Vannatta, widow of our late Grand Master, Sam W. Vannatta.

On motion of Bro. J. Pearson Smith,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary cause to be printed two thousand copies of the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge, and that he forward five copies to each subordinate Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Walker,

Resolved, That James E. Selby, who was, by St. John's Lodge, heretofore suspended indefinitely, be restored to his Masonic rights, the punishment inflicted having fully answered the purpose intended by it, in a thorough reformation of said suspended member.

Bro. Aitkin, in behalf of the Committee on Accounts, offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That all monies remitted to the Grand Lodge by the Subordinate Lodges, shall be at the risk of those remitting the same, unless they shall file in the Grand Secretary's office the certificate of the Postmaster, of the amount of money remitted and the date when mailed.

Bro. Hicks offered the following:

Resolved, That any Subordinate Lodge, knowingly initiating, passing or raising any person not residing within the jurisdiction of such Subordinate Lodge, without the recommendation of the Lodge in whose jurisdiction such person may reside, shall forfeit its charter, and the person shall be deemed within the jurisdiction of that Lodge nearest to which he resides.

A motion was made to lay upon the table, but on motion of Bro. Cooper, the previous question was demanded, the call sustained, and the resolution adopted.

The Grand Officers elect, (except the Grand Master, who had been previously installed) were then installed by the Past Grand Master of Missouri, Bro. J. W. S. Mitchell.

Bro. Hawkins offered the following, as an amendment to the constitution:

Resolved, That the Constitution of the Grand Lodge be amended as follows, to-wit: Strike out 1st Section, Article 1st, and insert, "The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, shall consist of the Grand Officers, and Masters and Wardens of Subordinate Lodges for the time being, or their proxies, or the representatives of said Lodges.

Bro. Youngblood moved to strike out "proxies," but the motion was not sustained.

Bro. Youngblood moved to make it the order of the day for 3 o'clock, P. M., to-morrow.

Bro. Callahan demanded the previous question, but the call not being sustained, the resolution was laid over one day.

Bro. Youngblood offered the following:

Resolved, That a recommendation of a Subordinate Lodge, authorizing a candidate to take the degrees in another Lodge out of its jurisdiction, must be passed at a regular meeting and by an unanimous vote.

Bro. Hawkins moved to strike out all after "meeting," which motion did not prevail, and the resolution was adopted.

Bro. S. B. Jones offered the following:

Resolved, That the names of non-contributors reported in the returns of Subordinate Lodges, under the resolution of the Grand Lodge relative to non-affiliated members, be omitted in the published proceedings of the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Taylor offered the following as a substitute :

Resolved, That all Master Masons residing under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, who have not been members of some Subordinate Lodge within twelve months previous to their application, are not entitled to visit any Lodge in this State more than once in each year; neither to participate in the charity fund nor to Masonic burial; and further, that no Lodge under this jurisdiction, is required to extend to such the privileges aforesaid. *Provided*, however, that if such Master Masons shall have applied for membership within said time and been refused, then, on the presentation of a receipt from the Secretary, of having paid a sum into the Treasury of some Lodge, equal to the annual dues of its members, then said Mason shall be entitled to all the privileges and benefits of other Master Masons, except membership.

2. *Resolved*, That it shall be the duty of all the Lodges under this jurisdiction, to remit the annual Lodge dues of all such of their members, as they have good reason to believe, are unable to pay the same without injury to themselves or families; and omitting the names, report the number thus exempt, to this Grand Lodge in their annual returns, that such Lodge may not be charged with dues thereon. It shall be the duty of each Lodge to serve a copy of these resolutions on each demitted Master Mason under its jurisdiction, that he may govern himself accordingly.

On motion, Bro. Jones' resolution and the substitute offered by Bro. Taylor were laid upon the table.

On motion of Bro. Youngblood,

Resolved, That the next Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge shall be held on the first Monday in February, A. L., 5851.

Bro. Hawkins offered the following, which was adopted :

WHEREAS, Quitman Lodge, No. 18, from peculiar circumstances with which it was surrounded, found it necessary to change its location, and having obtained permission to do so from the Grand Master in the year 1848, and having no representative at the last annual communication of the Grand Lodge, and believing no sanction has been given to said removal by the Grand Lodge; therefore it

Resolved, That the location of Quitman Lodge, No. 18, shall be known as Providence Camp Ground, Copiah county, instead of Georgetown.

On motion of Bro. Morris,

Resolved, That no resolution made by individual members shall be printed in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, unless said resolution shall be adopted either in whole or in part.

Prayer by Rev. Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

THURSDAY, February 5, 1850, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Present as before, with the addition of Moses Cook Lodge, U. D., by Charles A. Fulsom.

Prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

The Grand Secretary presented the following

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence have the honor to report, that they have had before them copies of the printed proceedings of all the Grand Lodges of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons in the United States and the Canadas, together with a large number of special communications.

The reports in these printed proceedings are characterized by the exhibition of great talents and are of unusual interest. Some of them exhibit an intimate knowledge of Masonic lore and law, and appear to have been prepared with great labor.

There are many questions examined in them, but the one which is of the greatest importance, considering the effects already produced by a difference of opinion upon it, and to which we beg first to call your attention, is

THE DIFFICULTY IN NEW YORK.

The Grand Lodge of New York was first formed by virtue of a warrant from the Duke of Athol, Grand Master of England in 1781, and was called the "Provincial Grand Lodge of New York." After the peace with England in 1783, a separation of the Provincial Grand Lodge and the Mother Grand Lodge took place. It appears that in the warrant, there was an enumeration of those who should form the Provincial Grand Lodge, and among them Past Masters were named. After the separation, in adopting a Constitution and General Regulations in 1785, they were mentioned as members "by usage and courtesy" of the Grand Lodge. In June, 1823, owing to a jealousy between the country and city Lodges, a separation took place and two Grand Lodges existed until 1827, when a compact consisting of four articles was formed, which was declared to be "a fundamental law and should never be disturbed." And the two bodies became one. The first article united them, and declared the united body a continuation of the Old Grand Lodge. The second article declared, that certain officers should be selected from the city and certain other officers from the country, and made former proceedings regular. The third relates to the funds. The fourth is in these words: "That the number of Lodges which one Master or Past Master may represent, shall not exceed three, that Past Masters shall not be represented by proxy, and that representatives be paid as heretofore."

In June, 1848, two amendments to the Constitution were offered and adopted, so far as could be done at one communication. By which amendments, Past Masters were made honorary members only, having a seat for life, the right to be heard but not to vote, except the one who had last past the chair, who was still to enjoy the former privileges. "So that each Lodge, by its officers or proxy, should be entitled to three votes, and the last Past Master if present one vote, making four votes in all."

At the quarterly meeting of the Grand Lodge, March 6, 1849, (at such meeting, however, it is contended that no regulation which affects the general interests of the craft can be considered,) the amendments of June, 1848, were declared to be an attempt to virtually change and revolutionize the Grand Lodge, was without warrant in said constitution and at variance with all the principles upon which that Grand Lodge was originally constituted, and has ever been maintained, and was then established, and any action or vote tending to its consummation would be void. It was also declared to be a violation of the compact of 1827. It was admitted by the resolutions adopted on that occasion, that the Grand Lodge had power to make laws, to regulate and preserve the rights of its members, to direct the manner and form in which they shall be exercised and enjoyed, but the power to abrogate or destroy any of these rights, excepting for just cause, was denied.

On the 5th of June last, at the meeting of the Grand Lodge of New York, in Grand Annual Communication, before the call of the roll, the Grand Secretary announced that the amendments had received the sanction of a majority of the Subordinate Lodges, and the Grand Master, Willard, made the same

statement upon his own examination of the returns, and declared them to be the law.

Art CVI, of the New York Constitution, which is headed "Future Amendments and New Regulations," says:

"No amendment to this Constitution shall be made or have any effect, until the same shall have had the affirmative vote of the Grand Lodge at two successive June Communications, unless in addition to the affirmative vote of the Grand Lodge, at one June Communication, it shall have received the affirmative vote of a majority of the Lodges within this jurisdiction. If such proposed amendment shall receive the affirmative vote of the Grand Lodge at one June Communication, the same shall be appended to the published proceedings at the end, under the caption, "Proposed Amendments to the Constitution," and sent to each Lodge within this jurisdiction, in order that the Lodges may, if they think proper, instruct their representatives thereon, and the action of the Grand Lodge in relation thereto, shall also appear in the appropriate place in the proceedings.

2d. The Grand Lodge may, by vote, at any June meeting, adopt new general resolutions not inconsistent with this Constitution, to have effect for such time as may be named therein, not exceeding one year from the time of their adoption. But except for the time aforesaid, no general regulation or resolution to operate as such, affecting the fraternity, or the Lodges, or their action, shall be made or have any effect, unless the same shall have received the affirmative vote of the Grand Lodge at two successive June Communications. If such proposed new Regulations shall receive the affirmative vote of the Grand Lodge at one June Meeting, it shall be appended to the published proceedings at the end, under the caption "Proposed New Regulations," and in that form sent to each Lodge within this jurisdiction.

When Grand Master Willard made the announcement above mentioned, the Past Deputy Grand Master, Isaac Phillips, who was acting as Grand Junior Warden, arose, and declared the body over which Bro. Willard presided, not to be the Grand Lodge of New York, or, as the Willard party say, declared the Grand Lodge of New York dissolved. A body was then organized by William Willis, Past Deputy Grand Master, who was acting as Senior Grand Warden, being called to the chair to preside as Grand Master.

Some twenty-six or twenty-seven Lodges answered, upon a call of the roll, by Past Grand Secretary James Herring, and an election was gone into and officers elected. Willis, as Grand Master, and James Herring, as Grand Secretary, when this body adjourned.

During all this period, the Grand Master, Willard, having failed to produce order, remained with the other representatives, about fifty in number, the Grand Secretary and the other Subordinate Officers, with the exception of the Grand Treasurer, in their places and patiently waited until the other body adjourned. Then the body over which Grand Master Willard presided, also adjourned; but, upon meeting again, the owner of the Hall, who had taken sides with the Willis party, refused to re-admit them. They met in another room, and then adjourned to the Coliseum. The Willis party, partly by violence, obtained possession of a part of the property and the seal of the Grand Lodge. Such are the facts. Though we are not insensible to the impropriety of much of the conduct of individuals concerned in this business during the evening of the 5th June, it is not best to prejudice the mind by any detailed account, before an examination of the question which these proceedings have raised, and the solution of which is of much importance to the harmony of the Masonic fraternity in the United States. To decide with justice, we must remove far from us all feelings which, from their nature, always more or less, interfere with the free and unbiased action of our intellects. And in examining constitutional questions, we must divest ourselves of all considerations of mere expediency. First, settle the questions of right, then the expediency of exercising those rights, may be discussed, and our better feelings invoked in aid of our argument.

Now we are asked to decide which of these bodies are to be recognized as the Grand Lodge of the State of New York?

It may appear like presumption in us, and perhaps it is, to argue at length a question which has already been considered, and opinions given by the Grand Lodges of Massachusetts, District of Columbia, South Carolina, Rhode Island, Illinois, Kentucky, and, perhaps, some others, and especially as some of them found it a question of such easy solution, that no time was occupied in its discussion; and upon which so learned and distinguished a jurist as Chancellor Walworth has given a legal opinion; nor should we dare to differ from him if he had presided as many years in the Orient as upon the bench, and were not presumed to be biased as the attorney and counsel for one of the parties.

It may be that he and the Grand Lodges referred to are correct in affirming the right of one portion of the Grand Lodge of New York to exclude another portion from membership in that body. Yet the question has presented a difficulty to our minds which neither the weight of the opinions of the Grand Lodges above mentioned, nor the ingenious argument of the learned Chancellor, has been able entirely to remove.

The Committee of South Carolina express their surprise that any number of intelligent Masons should, for a moment, claim for Past Masters an inherent and vested right to membership for life in the Grand Lodge, when it is beyond all contradiction certain (in the minds of the Committee) that the ancient constitutions and usages not only did not confer such privileges, but did not mention them as members of the Grand Lodge at all, the Ancient Grand Lodge being exclusively composed of the Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers and Masters and Wardens of Lodges. And the Committee state that Past Masters in South Carolina are only members of the Grand Lodge by virtue of an election, and are required to pay annual dues.

The Committee of Illinois call the doctrine "monstrous," and of course refuse to give it their sanction.

The Committee of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts declare it to be "a universal law of the Order, that each Grand Lodge may, in a constitutional manner, change their laws, declaring who shall and who shall not, be its members, in addition to the officers and others who are necessary to its existence."

Chancellor Walworth contends that if the amendment did not remove an ancient landmark, it was a valid amendment, and one which the Grand Lodge had the right to make.

The Committee of the Willard body go a step further and contend for the unlimited power of change of constitution, provided the change is in the form of an amendment, and the course pointed out in the constitution for amendments is pursued. We do not think, however, that they intended to mean that they could remove an ancient landmark.

There are four points presented for our consideration:

First—Have Past Masters an inherent right to membership in the Grand Lodge of New York, as claimed by them?

Second—Had the Grand Lodge a right to oust the Past Masters who were members, by virtue of a power of amendment in the original constitution?

Third—Was the amendment passed in accordance with the forms of the constitution?

Fourth—And if so passed, have we any legal evidence of that fact?

We throw entirely aside the compact of 1827, upon which much stress has been laid by the Willis party; for although in that compact the Past Masters are incidentally referred to, it contains no positive provision in their favor. It may be that an inference could be legitimately drawn from the former difficulties, which this compact was intended to remove; that the restriction mentioned in the fourth article of the compact above quoted, was the only restriction which should thereafter be placed upon the Past Masters. If this were the meaning intended, and this the former Grand Secretary, Herring, asserts to be the meaning, the language does not fully convey it, and we are

too far removed from the scene of action, and are not familiar enough with the history of that day, to know what weight should be given to the assertion from the previously existing facts. We have understood that the difficulty arose from the abuse of the power of appointing proxies, and the monopolizing of offices by the city, and that the attempt of the Country Lodges to retaliate by monopolizing all the offices in 1823, produced the rupture. If this be true, then the antecedents do not afford any support to the assertion, that the compact was to protect the franchises of the Past Masters. The only section in the compact in which the Past Masters are mentioned, is the one above quoted. "That the number of Lodges which one Master or Past Master might represent, should not exceed three; but Past Masters should not be represented by proxy; and that representatives should be paid as they had heretofore been paid."

It will at once be seen, that if the Willis or Phillips' party has no other support than this compact, that it would be entirely insufficient. We would rather suppose that, not dreaming of such an attack they did not provide for any defense. As the Grecian law-giver made no law to punish patricide, as he did not think such a crime could be committed.

Let us then glance at the question of "inherent rights," which is so warmly urged on the one side, and stoutly, and, as we have seen, even scornfully denied on the other.

To do this it is necessary to look into the history of the Order to ascertain how the Grand Lodges were first formed, and of, and by whom, constituted.

In the year A. D. 296, the first General Council or Assembly of Masons was held in Britain, and was presided over by Albanus, as Grand Master. It was as its name indicates a "general assembly" of the Craft, not a representative body. Such also was the assembly at York in 926, under Prince Edwin. Such was the assembly in London, which held its first meeting in 1557. At these General Assemblies were to be found as members, all Masons, even the Entered Apprentices. There were then no warrants or charters, nor representatives exercising delegated powers, nor Lodges working under charter.

In 1718, Grand Master Payne, of London, had in his possession, a manuscript copy of the "Ancient Charges," which was then considered old, and in which we find the following charge to "all the Freres." (Brothers.) "Once a year ye are to come and assemble together, to consult how ye may best work to serve the Craft, and to your own profit and credit." Even up to this period, there were no Subordinate Lodges working under a warrant from the Grand Lodge at London; but the brethren had the inherent right within a certain district, to meet and make Masons. The wisest was "ordained the Master of the work," and the brethren were charged "neither for love nor lineage, riches nor favor, to set one over the work who had but little knowledge," etc. But it was determined in the General Assembly at London, 1717, to surrender this right and vest it in certain Lodges or Assemblies of Masons, convened in certain places, and that every Lodge to be thereafter convened, except the four old Lodges at that time existing in London, should be legally authorized to act by a warrant from the Grand Master for the time being granted to certain individuals by petition, with the consent and approbation of the Grand Lodge in Communication; and that without such warrant, no Lodge should be deemed thereafter regular or constitutional. The Assembly was composed of the members of the four old Lodges, two or three brethren distinguished in private life, whose names are given, and "some old brethren." Masonry had begun to revive in the South of England, and they met to form a Grand Lodge. On the 24th of June following, the Grand Master (Sayre) was elected by a show of hands, all the Assembly voting. At that time, he ordered the Masters and Wardens of Lodges to meet the Grand Officers in Quarterly Meetings. These Quarterly Meetings, however, were not the meetings of the Grand Lodge, but of a part of its members for special purposes—although Chancellor Walworth thinks the statement of this fact in his argument worthy of italics. On the 24th of June, 1721, however, the Regulations or written Constitution, were sub-

mitted to the General Assembly of one hundred and fifty brethren, and were approved. The 12th Article was as follows, as compiled by Lawrence Dermott, Deputy Grand Master in 1772: "The Grand Lodge consists of, and is formed by, the Masters and Wardens of all the particular Lodges upon Record, with the Grand Master at their head, the Deputy on his left hand, and the Grand Wardens in their places."

Chancellor Walworth says, that these Regulations received the approbation not only of the brethren mentioned, but the "assent of the Grand Lodge." He gives no authority for the distinction, and we can find none. We are of the opinion, that the one hundred and fifty brethren (who could not of course, be all Masters and Wardens, as there were but six Lodges, the members of which formed the Grand Lodge at London,) composed the General Assembly or Grand Lodge, until the Regulations were adopted; which reduced the Grand Lodge from being a general assembly, to a particular assembly of enumerated officers.

The question then is, Did the adoption of these Regulations exclude Past Masters? Chancellor Walworth says, "it is perfectly evident, that the Past Masters of particular Lodges could not have been members of the Grand Lodge; for at that time, even the Past Grand Masters and other Past Grand Officers, were not members thereof, or entitled to vote therein. Past Grand Masters were admitted, by a new regulation, to vote in November, 1724; Past Deputy Grand Masters, by another new Regulation, in February, 1726; and Past Grand Wardens, in May, 1727. Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer were ex-officio members for all purposes, except that of voting for Grand Master and Grand Wardens."

Again, Chancellor Walworth admits, that at least one of the Grand Lodges of England, allowed Past Masters to sit and vote as members as early at least as 1781; but presumes, that they were admitted by virtue of a Regulation adopted after 1738, and perhaps 1772. He asserts, that nearly all the Grand Lodges have exercised the right to change the Constitution, in regard to the subject of membership; and states, that after the submission of the Regulations of 1781, to the hundred and fifty brethren assembled, that the Grand Lodge exercised the right as an inherent power, to alter and amend the Regulations, still preserving the ancient landmarks, and the power was never questioned.

This last fact sustains what we above suggested, that the Grand Lodge of England derived its authority from the hundred and fifty brethren who adopted the Regulations, and by virtue of which, the Grand Lodge was composed only of the Grand Master, his Deputy, the Grand Wardens, and the Masters and Wardens of particular Lodges.

The reason, perhaps, why the power to alter and amend the Regulations was never questioned, was, that no attempt was ever made to disfranchise any who had once acquired the rights of membership.

If the admission of Past Grand Masters, Grand Wardens, etc., required special legislation and new regulations, how did it happen that we find Past Masters recognized by the Grand Lodge of England as regular members, without any existing written regulation for authority? We find them members at least as far back as 1781, but when they first were admitted is unknown. If there be no new Regulation admitting them, then the presumption is, that they were not excluded by the Regulations of 1721.

But when do we first hear mention made anywhere of Past Masters? We are under the impression, that the title cannot be found in any manuscript or book prior to the adoption of the Regulations of 1721, nor for some years thereafter; simply from the fact, that they did not exist. There was no such Order known distinct from the Order of Present Masters. All were then called Masters. Neither of the adjectives, Past nor Present, were used. Up to the commencement of the 18th century, Masonry was operative as well as speculative, and all Masters of Lodges were operative Masons. A few distinguished men had been initiated, and nobles elected Grand Masters, by way of protection and patronage, which the state of society at the time and the political

institutions of England appeared to justify; but they never became Masters of Lodges, for the Masters of Lodges were the Masters of the Work, and that was a kind of work which the nobles of that day, no more than the aristocracy of the present, loved to perform. When apprentices served for "seven years" before they could become Fellows, there were no Past Masters; no annual elections; it was the business of a life. It was only after Masonry had lost its operative feature, and had become entirely speculative, that a corresponding change in the government of Lodges followed. Lodges were required to have warrants. Distinguished and undistinguished men, who were not operative Masons, became Masters of Lodges; then came periodical elections; then of course, Past Masters, though perhaps not distinguished by that title for years afterwards. The Masters being considered life members, it is reasonable to suppose, that after they had been succeeded in office in the Lodge, they still maintained their seats in the Grand Lodge, and that an increase of their numbers, drew attention to the position of this class—and when the question was considered, they were allowed to retain their seats; for as soon as the growth of this class might reasonably be supposed to attract notice, we find them enjoying all the rights and privileges of regular members of the Grand Lodge. Why was it not considered necessary for their retention as members, that a new Regulation should be adopted, as was the case in 1724, etc., to continue the membership of the Past Grand Master and Past Grand Wardens, if it were not that the Past Masters had always been members, and that the Regulations of 1721 never were considered as excluding them? The Wardens were differently situated; they were always officers who held only at the will of the Master, until Masonry became wholly speculative, hence they never could have been considered life members.

From the time then when Past Masters are first mentioned, we find them members of the Grand Lodge.

We have then, 1st, That all the brethren, even to the Entered Apprentices, were to assemble annually, and thus for fifteen hundred years were the general assemblies or Grand Lodge constituted.

2. That it was subsequently, in 1721, deemed advisable by the general assembly of Masons in the South of England, to exclude all but three principal officers of the Lodges, and to require the Lodges to work by virtue of a warrant from the Grand Master, with assent of Grand Lodge, except four Lodges then existing in London.

3. That in 1724, the Regulations were amended, or rather, a new article was added by the Grand Lodge, by which the Past Grand Master and Past Grand Wardens were admitted to membership.

4. After this, a few years only, we find Past Masters recognized by the Grand Lodge of England, without any new regulation being considered necessary to admit them, and, so far as we know, they always had a seat in the Grand Lodge, and considered as included in the term of "Masters of Lodges." The words "Present" or "Past" is not to be found in any of the old works, and it was owing to the fact, that Masonry was just entering the state of transition from operative and speculative to speculative alone, though the great body of the Craft were still operatives. Without having the Record of the Grand Lodge of England before us, we are justified in the view we have taken.

5. The Past Masters are mentioned in the Provincial Charter, granted by the Duke of Athol, to constitute the Grand Lodge of New York, as distinctly as the Present Masters and Wardens.

6. They are mentioned as members by custom and courtesy in the present written Constitution or Regulations of New York.

7. They are recognized as regular members in the compact of 1827.

The corollary of the whole is that if the Masters and Wardens have an inherent right to membership in a Grand Lodge, Past Masters have also, and the right of the latter is altogether superior to an elected Representative of a Lodge,

for Lodges were not represented, by virtue of the Regulations of 1721; the Masters and Wardens composed the Grand Lodge, but not as Representatives. Each had his separate vote. Votes were not taken by Lodges. This is altogether a modern invention, and it is believed not to exist in England. In all probability it has grown out of the character of our form of political government in the United States. The Masters and Wardens were selected, it is right to presume, as a class of experienced Masons, capable of governing the fraternity, to form the Grand Lodge; and for the same, or the greater reason, Past Masters were considered members. If Past Masters have no inherent rights, then have neither the Masters and Wardens. This we will presently show.

That in the organization of one Grand Lodge in the United States, (South Carolina), the Past Masters are excluded, excepting upon petition and election to membership, and perhaps altogether in another Grand Lodge, is true, but they form exceptions, it is believed, to the general rule in the United States and England, and are examples rather to be avoided than followed.

Our second question is:

Had the Grand Lodge of New York the right to oust the Past Masters, who were members, and had been from the organization of that body?

This is: can one constituent oust any other constituent of his franchises, when both are parties to the Compact or Constitution? We unhesitatingly answer, that he cannot, without *ipso facto* destroying the Constitution and dissolving the body created by that instrument. In no sense, can the body composed of a different kind, or a less number of kinds, or classes of constituents from the old one, be considered a continuation of the old one. The Constitution is an agreement between the parties making it. The present Constitution of New York was adopted by, and the Grand Lodge consists of, certain Past Grand Officers, Present and Past Grand Masters and Wardens of Lodges, they all became members originally by virtue of the same authority—the Charter from England. After the Revolution, they continued united, and made the present Constitution and General Regulations together. As a class, no one of them have exclusive privileges. No one can say, that it is superior to the other, and, under that Constitution, no power being expressly granted for that purpose, no one class can oust the others. If it be done, it must be done by virtue of a power existing *de hors* the Constitution; for this is to destroy, and not to amend. In this particular, it is like a partnership; when one partner is driven out, the firm is destroyed. The other partners may carry on the same business in the same place, but it is a new firm.

No one can suppose for a moment, that when the Grand Lodge of New York ceased to act under the Provincial Charter and adopted Rules and Regulations, with power of amendment, that either party contemplated any such construction, as to authorize the Past Masters to exclude the Present Masters or Wardens, or the Wardens to exclude the Past Masters; for so important a power would have received an express mention, and the mode and time for the execution would have been clearly pointed out. No such claim would have been set up, under the Provincial Charter—that prescribed who should be members of the Grand Lodge—and the present Grand Lodge of New York is a mere continuation of the Provincial Grand Lodge, without change in the constituency. They merely threw off their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England, and continued their labors, without any change in the constituency or the organization of the Grand Lodge of New York.

The Masonic sovereignty within a conceded jurisdiction, lies somewhere—it is in the possession of some class, organized body, or individual. It was, as we have seen, from our earliest records, up to the early part of the 18th century, a period of fifteen hundred years, in the brethren of all ranks and degrees in general assembly convened. We have seen it pass, if you will, into the hands of the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Wardens and the W. Masters and Wardens of Lodges holding communication in Grand Lodge.

Seventeen years after, these Masters and Wardens admitted, to share this sovereign power with them, the Past Grand Master, Past Deputy Grand Master and Past Grand Wardens—afterwards the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, who at first were admitted to membership, for all purposes, except to vote at the election of Grand Officers. Then Past Masters are recognized as members and full partners in this sovereignty. Other Officers and Past Grand Officers, in the United States, were admitted, and even Chapter Past Masters in some Grand Lodges, then enjoyed the like franchises and privileges.

Masters and Wardens no longer hold seats in their own right, but as mere representatives subject to the instructions of their Lodges. Representatives of Lodges, not officers, or Past Officers, or their proxies, but chosen by the Subordinate Lodges, have obtained seats in the Grand Lodge as regular members for the period of their election, which terminates with the Grand Communication. And as the Lodges were the electors, the sovereignty is shared by them, in such case. This is almost restoring the power to the first possessors. her con-

We may be reminded that the Grand Lodge of Mississippi changed institution, and excluded the Chapter Past Masters, who had been admitted by election under the old Constitution. We have never doubted that this was a clear violation of their rights. The Grand Lodge had certainly the right to amend her Constitution, by providing that no more of that class should be admitted to membership, but the right had become vested in those already in, and could not be withdrawn. It was not a gift even, it was purchased by them for they paid dues. But though they felt themselves wronged, they did not think the right worth the sacrifice of the harmony of the fraternity, by an effort to maintain it, and particularly, as they generally thought that their original admission was inexpedient. They will never ask a readmission.

The next question is:

Admitting the right in the Grand Lodge of New York to make the change in the Constitution, was the Constitution amended according to the prescribed forms? Upon this point, the parties are at issue, as to the construction of the Constitution. One side contending, that it was a "new Regulation," and that it was necessary to submit it to the Grand Lodge at two successive sessions. The other side, that of the majority, call it an "Amendment to the Constitution," which might be passed at one session, and submitted to the Subordinate Lodges, and, if adopted by a majority of them, it would become the law and a part of the Constitution. We have treated it as a Constitutional Amendment, as claimed to be by the Willard party. If it be a change of the "General Regulations," as the late Grand Secretary Herring contends, then it is very clear, that the amendment has not been adopted, nor is it pretended, that it has gone through the necessary forms for that purpose, "and has received the affirmative vote of two successive June Communications," as required by the second Section, CVI Article of the "Regulations." The distinction made by Past Grand Secretary Herring, between the Constitution and Regulations, appears to be borne out by the articles themselves; but with as the Regulations are of an inferior character to the Constitution. Our Constitution is not confined to a mere declaration of principles. But it is not necessary to pursue this matter further; for it matters not which it was; for, if the Amendments had been adopted, the fact has not yet been legally ascertained. The declaration of its having been approved by a majority of Subordinate Lodges, by the Grand Secretary Boyd, and by the Grand Master Willard, were not legal evidence of that fact, and it is positively denied on the other side.

In the absence of any special Regulation in such case, the obvious course, it appears to us, for the Grand Secretary to have pursued, was, after the Grand Lodge had been duly opened and ready for the ordinary business, to make a report of the several actions of the Subordinate Lodges, as returned to him by them, and then the whole would have properly been referred to a Committee for examination. The report of that Committee would have presented the subject for the final action of the Grand Lodge, and that action would have been to declare by solemn vote, the adoption or rejection of the Amendment,

according to the returns of the Subordinate Lodges. Unless they had discovered, since their last Grand Annual Communication, that the whole proceeding was unconstitutional, as was declared at the quarterly meeting in March last. This was the true parliamentary course, and would have taken away all cause and excuse for the excesses committed by the opponents of the measure, though they still might have believed that the majority had no right to deprive them of a voice in the Grand Lodge. But in the case as presented to them, by the premature announcement of Bro. Boyd, the Grand Secretary, and the equally premature and uncalled for declaration of the Grand Master, that the amendment had become an integral part of the Constitution, and was the law, they believed that their rights were destroyed, and that without even the forms of the law. The natural results, under the law of self-defence, which governs more or less powerfully the actions of all, were excitement and indignation, and some acts which we might have expected at a political meeting, but which were entirely inexcusable in a Lodge room.

We conclude then, that the Grand Lodge of New York could not "amend" the Constitution or General Regulations as proposed; but if it could, it is doubtful if it pursued the requisitions of its own laws in the mode of amendment, and if the right course was adopted, the result has not yet been legally ascertained and proclaimed; and, therefore, the constituent members of the Grand Lodge remain the same as before the "amendment" was originally presented for its consideration, and Messrs. Phillips, Willis, Herring and others, would, but for the sentence of expulsion, be still members of the Grand Lodge of New York.

On the other hand, we have no hesitation in deciding that, whether the amendment was such an Amendment as the Grand Lodge of New York had a right to make or not, or whether it was, or was not, adopted according to the form of its own laws, or whether the Grand Master Willard, and the Grand Secretary Boyd, showed themselves over anxious for the adoption of the amendment, and were entirely wrong in the time and mode of making the announcement of its adoption, and that it was the law of the Grand Lodge. Bro. Willis and his party were wrong in the selection of the time and mode of applying the proper remedy. They were premature in their action, for the reason that the amendment had not been declared by the Grand Lodge as adopted; and for that, the chair of the Grand Master was usurped, and his power derided while he was presiding, and the whole election which followed was consequently illegal and void. A Grand Master is not to be deposed for a mistake, or for wilful error, without the due forms of the law, if he be subject to any, but certainly not by violence.

The body over which Isaac Phillips presides, cannot be recognized then as a regularly constituted Grand Lodge. Yet we do not deem the members guilty of any moral wrong, though their conduct was improper. It was an attempt to meet the force of numbers by the force of noise, and to prevent the consummation of what they deemed doubtless a great wrong to them, and for which there was no apparent legal remedy. Both proceedings, in our opinion, were revolutionary, and both wrong. Neither deserve, however, the harsh and unkind epithets bestowed upon each other, and so liberally showered upon one party from abroad. The character of men's conduct will vary in shade a good deal, as we change our own point of view. There is, doubtless, much to be forgiven on both sides. The stronger party believed that they were exercising a rightful power; the weaker, that their rights were invaded, and all other remedies having failed, they adopted the only one which they thought was left to them. We think they erred in the remedy, and the moment of applying it. This was their misfortune, but not a crime. The dignity and forbearance of the majority, (except the misplaced and unfortunate announcements by the Grand Secretary and Grand Master, relative to the amendment,) are worthy of great commendation, and has given to them a decided advantage in the sympathies, and even in the argument, with their foreign brethren. It would be better that both parties retreat to the positions occupied by them at the commence-

ment of the Communication of June, 1849, and let the question be re-examined thoroughly, as it regards the power of adopting the "amendment," without suffering the expediency, or in expediency, of the measure, or the misconduct of individuals, to bias them, and before final action, let them become satisfied on both sides, as to the question of right, or refer the subject to others who are interested.

Since writing the foregoing on the difficulties in New York, we have noticed the report of a committee, consisting of Bro. C. Moore, Past Grand Master Thrall, and others, in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, to which were referred certain resolutions in relation to a change of Constitution of that Grand Lodge, by which Past Grand Wardens who had been heretofore, were not enumerated as members of the Grand Lodge. The report was adopted, and is as follows: "That previous to the adoption of the present Constitution and By-Laws of the Grand Lodge, all Past Grand Wardens were ex-officio members of the Grand Lodge. Therefore, being in the enjoyment of this franchise at the adoption of the present Constitution, they could not, legally, be deprived of a right which had accrued to them under a pre-existing code. They, therefore, recommend the adoption of said resolutions." The resolutions were passed. This sustains the principle advocated by this Committee.

The undersigned present the following resolutions for the consideration of the Grand Lodge:

Resolved, By the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, that greatly regretting the schism in the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, which occurred on the 5th June last, and believing that there is error on both sides, the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, recommend a reconsideration of the proceedings, and not being able to discover any moral delinquency or wilful error in either, respectfully suggest the cultivation of a more kindlier and more Masonic feeling by both, recollecting that "Charity suffereth long, and is kind, charity envieth not, charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, thinketh no evil, rejoiceth not in iniquity; but rejoiceth in the truth, beareth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge is compelled at the same time to recognize the Grand Lodge over which Bro. Willard presides and of which Bro. R. R. Boyd is Grand Secretary.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge cannot recognize the body over which Isaac Phillips presides, as a regularly constituted Grand Lodge, nor its officers as Masons in good standing, they having been expelled by the regular Grand Lodge of that State.

Your Committee have a more pleasant subject before them. It is generally known that about twelve years ago, owing to the injudicious exercise of power, upon a subject of no very great importance, on the one hand, a want of a proper spirit of subordination to the constituted authorities on the other, and the apparent absence of the spirit of brotherly love from both in the State of New York, a schism occurred in that State and a Grand Lodge was formed by the seceding and expelled Lodges and members, called the St. John's Grand Lodge, which has continued in existence ever since. The facts were, that two or three Lodges, in the city of New York, proposed to have a public procession on St. John's Day, and had all their arrangements made, and all was done, it is said, with the knowledge of the Deputy Grand Master. This officer, however, forbade one of the Lodges on the evening previous, and the other on the morning of the contemplated parade, after all their arrangements had been made. Some of the brethren obeyed the mandate, but the officers and members generally refused to obey and had their procession. For this disobedience they were cited to answer charges and were expelled.

Although it is a part of the Masonic law, which we believe has never been disputed, except in this case, but which in some of the States has seldom or

never been enforced, that no public procession of two or more Lodges, even on funeral occasions, can be held without a dispensation from the Grand Master or his Deputy, the enforcement of the strict letter of the law, under the circumstances, in New York, we thought at the time, was injudicious, and the harshness which characterized the proceedings against the offenders, were calculated, not to allay, but to excite the passions, and to produce a determined resistance even to legal authority. The result showed that this was not an exception to the rule which governs the exercise of authority in a haughty and tyrannical manner. But years have rolled around and both parties have had time to permit the better feelings to control their actions, and the consequence is, that the matter at issue has been, or is about being, referred to Grand Masters of New Jersey and Connecticut, and an umpire to be chosen by these two Grand Masters. As both parties will be bound, it is presumed, to abide by the result, we have no doubt that, before many months, the St. John's Lodge will be merged in the Grand Lodge of New York, the worthy brethren restored to Masonry, and that harmony will again prevail.

LOUISIANA.

The Committee are, also, happy to announce that the prospect is very fair or the settlement of the difficulties in Louisiana within a few days. The two Grand Lodges are now in session, both animated by the right spirit and both anxious for union. We shall hail that union with the greatest pleasure, if not purchased by the sacrifice of principle. There were certainly charges made by our Ancient York brethren, against the old Grand Lodge, which might well be withdrawn, and which never received the support of Mississippi. But unlike the New York Committee on Foreign Correspondence, we do not think that the best way to produce harmony and uniformity, is to recognize all kinds of variations in work and make distinctive rites of them, but rather to discountenance and reject them. There should be but one mode of work. It may be possible that we cannot tell which is the most ancient, but it is our duty to try to ascertain that fact and adopt that as the true work. The Committee of the old Grand Lodge of Louisiana say that the York Rite accords with the Jewish Dispensation, while the Scotch and Modern Rites correspond to the Christian, and hence are superior. Not having received the degrees with Scotch or Modern Rites, we cannot judge of the truth of this distinction. We presume the Louisiana Grand Lodge will not be satisfied, without a correction of this accumulation of rites, nor until the old Grand Lodge shall burn the books which they now use in all their work in the Grand Lodge and allow in the Subordinates.

GENERAL GRAND LODGE.

The attention of the Grand Lodges in the United States, has again been forcibly called, by the events of the past year, to the consideration of the expediency of establishing a common head. Special communications, on this subject, have been received from Rhode Island, New York, Maryland, and the District of Columbia.

The Grand Lodge of Rhode Island has prepared a form of a Constitution for a General Grand Lodge, which, by the request of that Grand Lodge, is herewith submitted.

At the Quarterly Communication of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island, held in Providence, Monday, Nov. 29, 1849, the following Constitution for a General Grand Lodge for the United States, was presented by the Grand Master, and having been fully discussed and examined, was unanimously adopted, and recommended to all the Grand Lodges in the United States, as a basis on which a General Grand Lodge may be permanently established :

CONSTITUTION

For a General Grand Lodge for the United States.

ARTICLE 1.—TITLE—OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. The style and title shall be, "The General Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted York Masons, for the United States of America."

SEC. 2. It shall consist of a General Grand Master, D. G. G. Master, G. G. S. Warden, G. G. J. Warden, G. G. Secretary, G. G. Treasurer, G. G. Chaplain, G. G. S. Deacon, G. G. J. Deacon, and G. G. Tyler; the Grand Masters, Deputy Grand Masters and Grand Wardens of all State Grand Lodges, that shall recognize the authority of this Constitution; and the W. Master of the Subordinate Lodges emanating from this G. G. Body. All of whom, except the G. G. Tyler, shall respectively be entitled to one vote. In cases of equal division, the G. G. Master shall likewise have the casting vote.

SEC. 3. All P. G. G. Masters, P. D. G. G. Masters, and P. G. G. Wardens, shall be members of this G. G. Lodge, with the privilege of one vote each.

SEC. 4. The G. G. Officers, Tyler excepted, shall be elected by ballot. The Tyler, and all other officers of convenience, unless otherwise ordered by vote of the body, shall be appointed by the G. G. Master; but they shall not, by virtue of such appointment, be entitled to vote.

SEC. 5. All the officers of the G. G. Lodge shall be elected, and, if present, installed, at its triennial communications. The officers absent at the time of their election, shall be installed as the G. G. Lodge may direct. When thus qualified, they shall continue in office until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

ARTICLE 2.—PROXIES.

SECTION 1. The first four P. G. G. Officers, or either of them, may be represented by proxy; but they shall not be privileged to vote as the proxy of another P. G. G. Officer; nor shall either of the first six G. G. Officers herein named be allowed to act and vote as the proxy of any present or P. G. G. officer, or Grand or Subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction.

SEC. 2. Any Subordinate Lodge, constituted by the authority of this Constitution, in case of the inability of its Worshipful Master to be present at any Communication of this G. G. Lodge, may be represented by a proxy; who shall be a member of said Lodge.

SEC. 3. No brother shall be received as proxy who is not a member of some Grand or Subordinate Lodge recognizing the authority of this Constitution.

SEC. 4. No proxy shall be entitled to more than one vote; nor shall any G. G. Officer, or representative, be allowed the privilege of more than one vote as proxy.

SEC. 5. Either of the first four officers of any State Grand Lodge, acknowledging the authority of this Constitution, may be represented by proxy.

SEC. 6. No proxies, other than those herein enumerated, shall be received by this General Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE 3.—MEETINGS.

SECTION 1. This G. G. Lodge shall meet triennially, and as much oftener as a majority of the members present at any meeting thereof, shall determine.

SEC. 2. Special meetings may be called by the first four G. G. Officers; or, in case of the demise of either of them, by the four Senior surviving G. G. Officers; whenever they, or a majority of them, may deem such meetings to be necessary. And they shall be called by the G. G. Master, or, in case of his death or absence from the country, by the officer next in rank, on the petition

of the first four officers of any three State Grand Lodges, being parties to this Constitution.

SEC. 3. The regular meetings of this G. G. Lodge shall be held at such time and place as shall be determined at the preceding triennial Communication thereof; and special meetings, as may be directed by the officers authorized to call them.

SEC. 4. The representatives of three Grand Lodges shall form a quorum for business.

ARTICLE 4.—JURISDICTION AND POWERS.

SECTION 1. This G. G. Lodge shall have Jurisdiction over the States and Territories within which no Grand Lodge exists, to the entire exclusion of such State Grand Lodges as may become parties to this Constitution. But it shall not, in any manner, interfere with the right of Jurisdiction over said States and Territories, that any State Grand Lodge, not a party to this Constitution, may, by Masonic usage, at present, or hereafter, lawfully possess or enjoy.

SEC. 2. This G. G. Lodge shall have original Jurisdiction over the Subordinate Lodges of its own creating, and shall possess and exercise over them, all the usual powers delegated, in like cases, to State Grand Lodges, by the ancient Constitutions and Regulations of Masonry.

SEC. 3. This G. G. Lodge shall have Jurisdiction over all differences that may arise between any two State Grand Lodges recognizing its authority; and it shall take cognizance of any and all such differences, on the written complaint of either of the parties at variance. Its decision shall be final and binding.

SEC. 4. It shall take cognizance of all cases of difference mutually referred to it by any two State Grand Lodges, not parties to this Constitution; *Provided*, said Grand Lodges shall have previously agreed to abide by its decision, and not otherwise.

SEC. 5. It shall not entertain complaints or appeals from any individual brother or Subordinate Lodge, against the proceedings of any State Grand Lodge whatever.

SEC. 6. It shall have plenary Jurisdiction over the three Craft Degrees of Ancient York Masonry, with authority, under the Constitutions, Laws and Usages of the Order, to determine and promulgate a consistent, pure and truthful system of work, lectures and ceremonial, for the use of the Grand and Subordinate Lodges acknowledging its authority. Said system shall conform, in all respects, to the best ascertainable landmarks and practices of the Ancient Craft; and when so determined and promulgated, it shall not be changed or altered, except by the unanimous vote of all the members present, at a regular Triennial Communication.

SEC. 7. This G. G. Lodge shall neither possess nor exercise any Jurisdiction or powers not herein expressly delegated to it. It shall be subject to the general Constitutions, regulations and usages of Ancient York Masonry; and it shall not cumulate within its own body, nor permit or countenance the cumulation of any foreign Rites within the body of any of its Subordinate Lodges.

ARTICLE 5.—STATES AND TERRITORIES.

SECTION 1. It shall be competent for the G. G. Master, or the D. G. G. Master, to issue dispensations for the formation of new Lodges within any State or Territory wherein no Grand Lodge exists; which Dispensations shall be made returnable at the next ensuing Communication of this G. G. Lodge, when they shall be revoked or continued; or otherwise, charters will be issued to the brethren holding them.

SEC. 2. Whenever there shall be in any State or Territory, three regularly chartered Lodges, it shall be competent for this G. G. Lodge, or the G. G. Master, or the D. G. G. Master, to form them into a Grand Lodge, said Lodges

jointly petitioning therefor; and on the formation of such Grand Lodge, the authority of this G. G. Lodge shall cease within said State or Territory, except as provided in the third section of this article.

SEC. 3. Whenever a Grand Lodge shall have been formed within any State or Territory, by the authority of any State Grand Lodge, this G. G. Lodge shall cease to exercise jurisdiction within the same, except as to its own existing Subordinate Lodges; and these, if they have been duly chartered and constituted, shall be free to determine, each for itself, under which authority it will thereafter act.

SEC. 4. The Subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction, shall make annual returns of their members and initiates to the G. G. Secretary, and pay such dues as may be determined by this G. G. Lodge.

ARTICLE 6.—STATE GRAND LODGES.

SECTION 1. Each State Grand Lodge, by its representatives or proxies, shall be entitled to four votes.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the Grand Secretaries of the State Grand Lodges, parties to this Constitution, to make Annual Returns of the Officers of their respective Grand Bodies to the G. G. Secretary.

SEC. 3. The jurisdiction of the several Grand Lodges acknowledging the authority of this Constitution, shall be restricted to the limits of the State or Territory within which they are respectively held.

SEC. 4. Any Grand Lodge, being a party to this Constitution, may withdraw from the same; *Provided*, it shall vote to do so at any Annual Communication of its own body, and it shall have furnished the G. G. Secretary with an attested copy of said vote. Having thus withdrawn, it shall be at liberty, without let or hindrance from this G. G. Body, to resume and exercise all its original powers and privileges.

ARTICLE 7.—BY-LAWS AND AMENDMENTS.

SECTION 1. It shall be competent for this G. G. Lodge to make and adopt such By-Laws or regulations, not inconsistent with this Constitution, as may, from time to time, be found useful or necessary in the performance of its duties. But it shall in no case assume, or exercise, any general powers, not herein especially delegated.

SEC. 2. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any regular triennial communication of this G. G. Body; *Provided*, The proposed alteration or amendment shall have been previously submitted, and received the affirmative vote of three-fourths of all the Grand Lodges acknowledging its authority, and not otherwise.

ARTICLE 8.—TEMPORARY.

SECTION 1. Whenever and so soon as sixteen of the Grand Lodges in the United States, shall have adopted this Constitution, a Convention of not more than four delegates from each Grand Lodge, so adopting it, shall be called by the senior Grand Lodge of their number, to assemble in the City of Baltimore, for the purpose of organizing the body contemplated by it.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to cause a proper number of copies to be printed, and send one copy to each Grand Master and Grand Secretary in the United States, with whom we are in correspondence.

R. W. Sir and Brother:

In accordance with the foregoing resolution, I herewith have the pleasure of presenting you with a copy of the Constitution, as directed, and would request you to lay it before your Grand Lodge, and urge its adoption at the next Communication of that body.

Respectfully and fraternally yours,
JAMES HUTCHISON, Grand Secretary.

It will be seen that this Constitution contains some of the objectionable features which were in the Constitution prepared at Baltimore in 1847, and which were condemned by this Grand Lodge, as well as some others relating to proxies. The power is given, in this Constitution, to the General Grand Lodge and General Grand Officers to grant dispensations and charters, and Masters of Lodges, not under the jurisdiction of any Grand Lodge and which may receive their dispensation or charter from the General Grand Lodge, are entitled each to one vote. Amending this Constitution in these particulars, the Grand Lodges desiring to establish a General Grand Lodge might with propriety adopt it, but under its present form your committee do not advise its adoption, even if it were certain that sixteen Grand Lodges might be found to accept it, as sent forth by Rhode Island, seeing that the instrument cannot be amended but by a two-thirds vote, even at the first meeting.

The Grand Lodge of New York, in June last, adopted certain resolutions in which are stated the provisions which that Grand Lodge would desire to see embodied in the General Grand Lodge Constitution, which, with the exception of allowing no vote to the Masters of individual Lodges directly subordinate to the General Grand Lodge in matters touching Subordinate Lodges, correspond very well with the Constitution recommended by Rhode Island. The Grand Lodge of New York recommended, at the same Communication, to other Lodges, to adopt such Constitutions as each might prefer, and send them to Boston, in September next, by their respective delegates, who would collate them and, from the different forms prepare one which would the most nearly meet, the views of the majority. A committee of the New York Grand Lodge was requested to draft one to be submitted to that Grand Lodge, in June next. Since then the Grand Secretary, R. R. Boyd, has written to the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge and says, "If you approve, I would be glad, if your Grand Lodge, would adopt, in substance, the Constitution for a General Grand Lodge sent out by Rhode Island, and send delegates to Washington, in May next."

The Grand Lodge of Maryland recommends the adoption of the Constitution prepared by the Convention at Baltimore in 1847. The only amendment proposed, is a temporary one providing for amendments to the Constitution at the first Triennial Meeting, by a majority vote. If the delegates to that Convention, from Maryland, had then agreed to the same amendment, which was then proposed by the delegate from Mississippi, we entertain no doubt that a sufficient number of Grand Lodges would have adopted the Constitution then prepared, faulty as it was.

The Grand Lodge of Maryland recommends a convention to be held at Baltimore on the 2nd Monday in July next. The following is a copy of the minutes of that Grand Lodge upon the subject.

MASONIC HALL, Baltimore, 27th Nov., 1849.

Right Worshipful Sir and Brother:

In compliance with the orders of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, I send you a copy of the Resolutions adopted by this Grand Lodge in favor of the immediate organization of the Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States.

The Grand Lodge of Maryland takes this view of the matter—that the only certain way of accomplishing so desirable a measure is to meet, not to propose a Constitution for a future meeting, but to form a Supreme Grand Lodge under the Constitution already before them; after this is done, and the body Constitutionally organized, the Constitution may be amended by a majority only, so as to meet the views of those who object to some of its provisions. The great advantage of this plan is, that every Grand Lodge has the basis of a Constitution before it, and has the privilege of proposing its own amendments, which if adopted by a majority of the Grand Lodges present, becomes a part of the Constitution. And this offers the strongest argument in favor of every Grand Lodge being represented at the first meeting.

As it is probable that some of the Grand Lodges may not have to hold a regular meeting in time to take necessary measures to send representatives, it is hoped that where there are strong objections to the contrary, an extra meeting may be called for the purpose; or where this is impracticable, there is no doubt of the Grand Officers who are by the Constitution of the Supreme Grand Lodge recognized as members of that body, being allowed to take their seats as such, on producing the necessary evidence of their official stations, and the cause of their Grand Lodges not having acted on the matter.

Some of the Grand Lodges have suggested that the meetings of the Supreme Grand Lodge be held at the same time and place of General Grand Chapter and General Grand Encampment. This question was fully discussed in the Convention in 1847—when we had the experience of our Grand Master Gilman, who was Secretary to those Grand Bodies for a very long time, and also of other General Grand Officers, who represented that the greatest inconvenience was experienced in consequence of those bodies meeting at the same time, although by no means so numerous as ours will be—the same individuals generally representing both—(and this is the only reason given why they should meet together) which rendered it almost impossible to transact the necessary business in the time limited by most of the members for their attendance. The month of July is also considered the most pleasant month for travel, and Baltimore the most central and easy of access from all parts of the Union, of any city.

I am, fraternally, yours, etc.,

JOS. ROBINSON, Grand Secretary,
Grand Lodge of Maryland.

IN GRAND LODGE OF MARYLAND, }
MASONIC HALL, Baltimore, Nov. 21, 1849. }

WHEREAS, It is manifest that a large majority of the Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons in the United States, acknowledge the necessity of the immediate organization of a Supreme Grand Lodge; and,

WHEREAS, It appears to the Grand Lodge of Maryland that no plan is so likely to effect a measure so desirable to all, as the adoption of the Constitution formed at the Grand Masonic Convention held in the city of Baltimore in September, 1847—several of those Grand Lodges that objected either to said Constitution, or to any organization, of a Supreme Grand Lodge, having lately changed their opinion; and,

WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Maryland having been the first to propose said Grand Convention, and the time and place of holding the same, it seems to be incumbent upon her and proper that she should take decisive steps to revive and complete the good work now lying dormant and unfinished; it is, therefore,

Resolved, by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland, That the Constitution for the organization of a Supreme Grand Lodge adopted by the Masonic Convention in the city of Baltimore on the 23d September, 1847, be and the same is hereby adopted by this Grand Lodge, with the following

AMENDMENTS.

1. In Article 1st, 3d line, strike out "*Provided*, That before the first day of January, 1849, sixteen Grand Lodges shall have adopted this Constitution, and not otherwise." Same Article, Sec. 5, for "1849," read "1850."

2. In lieu of Article 4, (temporary) adopt the following:

SECTION 1. All the Grand Lodges in the United States that shall adopt this Constitution shall meet in convention in the City of Baltimore, on the second Tuesday in July, 1850, to organize the Supreme Grand Lodge, and all Grand Lodges sending delegates to said Convention shall be received as members of said Supreme Grand Lodge.

SEC. 2. After the organization of Supreme Grand Lodge by the election and investment of its officers, it may amend this Constitution by a vote of a ma-

jority only; *Provided*, That this power to amend by a majority of votes shall be confined to this first meeting, after which the Constitution can be amended only as already provided in Article 3, Section 4.

2. *Resolved*, That the several Grand Lodges that shall determine to unite in organizing a Supreme Grand Lodge, be requested, as soon as possible, to take the necessary steps to be represented at the meeting proposed for that purpose on the 2d Monday in July, 1850, and to determine upon such amendments to the Constitution, as may make it more acceptable to them.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, immediately send a copy of these resolutions to each of the Grand Lodges in the United States, in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, and request their prompt action thereon—and that they notify him thereof, in order that he may make the necessary arrangements for the reception of the Convention in the Masonic Hall.

By order,

JOS. ROBINSON, Grand Secretary,
Grand Lodge of Maryland.

The Committee also submit a communication from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, covering the proceedings of that body upon this subject.

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE OF THE
GRAND LODGE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, }
November 7th, A. L. 5849.

To the M. W. Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Members of the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

BROTHERS—At the Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge holden on the 6th inst., a report and resolutions were presented by a Special Committee theretofore appointed on the subject of a Supreme Grand Lodge, which report and resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Recent occurrences in the Masonic family seem strongly to call for such a body, even if its authority is to be limited to the settlement of cases such as are now referred to, and we believed that this city afforded the best place of meeting, inasmuch as many Grand Lodges could avail themselves of the services, as delegates to the Convention proposed, of such of their brethren present here in the public councils of the nation, or of such whose public business might render it necessary for them to visit the city, and who could make the period indicated in one of the resolutions subservient to both purposes.

In accordance with the duty imposed on me by one of said resolutions, I append hereto a copy of said report and resolutions, and request your action, at as early a day as practicable.

With great respect, fraternally yours,

CHAS. S. FRAILEY,
Grand Secretary.

The Committee, appointed on the first day of May last, to perfect, so far as may be, a plan for the organization of a Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States of America, make the following report:

That the subject of establishing a Supreme Grand Lodge has been more or less agitated in the Grand Lodges of the several States, for many years without any practical result.

The last effort known to your Committee resulted in the calling of a Convention which was held at Baltimore on the 23d day of September, 1847, at which this Grand Lodge was represented by Bro. Abram O. Bowen, whose report of the proceedings of that Convention was made at the Annual Meeting of this Grand Lodge, in November of that year.

A Constitution of a Supreme Grand Lodge was agreed upon at that meeting, one of the provisions of which was, that if, prior to the 1st day of January, 1849, sixteen Grand Lodges should adopt that Constitution, it should go into effect, otherwise it should be void. It was not adopted by the number specified and, therefore, became void.

That Constitution was acted upon by this Grand Lodge at the May Communication in 1848, and after a long and spirited debate mainly upon the merits of said Constitution, it was rejected.

At the last annual meeting of this Grand Lodge, a resolution was adopted by a vote of ayes 18, noes 7, in the following words: "*Resolved*, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the organization of a General Grand Lodge of the United States is desirable; but that the Constitution framed by the Convention of Grand Lodges held in Baltimore in September, 1847, needs some amendment or modification, before it shall be ratified by this Grand Lodge."

And at the semi-annual communication in May last, this Committee was appointed for the purpose stated in the caption of this report.

The Committee entertain no doubt, whatever, as to the propriety of establishing a Supreme Grand Lodge, which shall have jurisdiction in all matters relative to State Grand Lodges. If any other evidence than the great principle that there must be a supreme power at the head of every system, to govern and control it, were wanted, we surely have it in the unfortunate difficulties which have distracted our brotherhood in the great State of New York, and which have given birth to no less than three Grand Lodges, and in the State of Louisiana where two Grand Lodges are at this moment in existence, all five of which claim to be acknowledged as duly constituted, and legally Masonic State Grand Lodges, by all the other Grand Lodges in the Union. Who does not see the tendency of this disaffection and disunion? This Grand Lodge may recognize one of the New York Grand Lodges; the Grand Lodge of Maryland another; the Grand Lodge of Virginia, another; the acknowledgment of one is necessarily an exclusion of the other two; brothers from the jurisdiction of those not acknowledged, must be rejected if they make application to visit any one of the Lodges under the jurisdiction of any one of the Grand Lodges above mentioned, viz: the District of Columbia, Maryland or Virginia. The question then arises between these three Grand Lodges as to their right to receive expelled Masons, and it will not be long before the harmony of the order will be broken up throughout the Union, unless there be a supreme power, having full authority to settle all these difficulties. That power must exist in a Supreme Grand Lodge.

Your Committee, therefore, recommend that every Grand Lodge in the United States, in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, be respectfully invited to send delegates to this city to meet in Convention here, on the first Wednesday of May next, at 4 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of forming a Constitution for a Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States of America, and to take such other action on the subject as the exigencies of the case may seem to require.

And to carry out this plan, the Committee respectfully report the following resolutions:

B. B. FRENCH,
O. WHITTLESEY,
S. YORKE ATLEE,
Committee.

WASHINGTON, November 6, 1849.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be directed to cause the foregoing report to be printed in circular form, as soon as may be, and that he send a copy thereof to each Grand Lodge in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, with a request that notice may be given to this Grand Lodge at as early a day as practicable, of the action thereon of the several Grand Lodges to whom it is sent.

Resolved, That as soon as it is ascertained that ten Grand Lodges have agreed to send delegates to such convention, the Grand Master of this Grand Lodge is hereby requested to call a special meeting of the Grand Lodge to choose delegates, and make the proper arrangements for said convention.

The time suggested for holding the convention is the 1st of May next, at Washington City. We think that the time is too short for the Grand Lodges generally to act, as the proposition was only sent out in November. The month of May would preclude the attendance of the delegates from the South

July, August or September would be better, and to have a full meeting, as the Grand Lodges are held at different seasons of the year, the first notice should have been given at least twelve or fifteen months before the time of holding the convention. The Committee cannot recommend the appointment of a delegate to either of those conventions, but would respectfully suggest that, if convenient, the Grand Lodge adopt, at the present session, such a Constitution as would suit its views, and fix upon some day and place, in 1851, for the holding of a convention to form a General Grand Lodge. Provided that this Grand Lodge retains its former opinion in favor of the expediency of forming such a body.

Your Committee are free to confess that their own opinions have undergone a change upon this subject. Convinced of the utter impossibility of producing uniformity of work by its instrumentality, and of the probability that all existing difficulties will, like all former ones, soon be adjusted, and that all future ones may, in like manner, be settled, before much injury, if any, can accrue to Masonry or to the fraternity; and believing that whatever be the mode adopted to raise a revenue, the cost to the charity fund to support such an organization, and the expenses of the delegates, coming from all quarters of a territory like the United States, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific, would not be compensated to the fraternity, by any good which might possibly result from such a creation; your Committee would respectfully suggest, that the subject be fully considered, before any definite action is taken. There is another important objection: either it would be too expensive, or the proxy system must be so extended, as would place the supreme Masonic power in the hands of some half a dozen individuals, in and about the place of holding the sessions. In addition to this, there is a fixed and conscientious determination on the part of several Grand Lodges, not to have lot or part in creating a body, heretofore unknown to Masonry. And these same Grand Lodges have hitherto abstained from participating in the organization, and refuse to acknowledge allegiance to that, as some think, useless, inefficient and expensive dead-weight, the General Grand Chapter. And we must confess, that so far as the General Grand Chapter is an argument in the case, it is in opposition to the establishment of the General Grand Lodge. The Committee leave the subject to the wisdom of your honorable body.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Wisconsin has passed the following resolution. To read is to condemn it:

Resolved, That when any candidate for advancement shall be balloted for in a Subordinate Lodge, a majority of all present members of the Lodge in which such balloting shall occur, shall be required to reject his application; and such Lodge, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, as have Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts who have been rejected for advancement, may again pass the ballot box, and the majority of the members of a Lodge at a regular Communication, may proceed to confer the degrees prayed for.

MASONIC JURISDICTION.

This Grand Lodge, upon its first formation, about thirty years ago, before the subject of Masonic jurisdiction was well settled, and without consideration of the question, chartered two Lodges on the immediate borders of this State, in Louisiana. Upon the complaint of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, our Grand Master wrote to those Lodges, and advised them to surrender their charters received from Mississippi, and pass under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. This was done.

We have alluded to this matter for two reasons. One of them is, that an attempt was made to convey the idea, that in our recent action against the organization and practices of the old Grand Lodge of Louisiana, that we did not recognize the State lines as boundaries of the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, and that it was a mere continuation of the invasion of the jurisdiction of Louisiana. Such, we beg to say, was not the case. Mississippi has never de-

signed to invade the jurisdiction of any Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons. When she chartered the Lodges above mentioned, as we have said, but little was known or said upon the subject. The petitioners were more convenient to Natchez than to New Orleans, and so near were the Lodges to the line of Mississippi, that it is not improbable that some of the members were residents of Mississippi. However, upon the complaint being made by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, notwithstanding that the State lines were then considered the limits of the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge rather by courtesy than by right, the evil was remedied. The question then stood pretty much as the question now stands in regard to individuals going out of the jurisdictions in which they live, to receive the degrees. The difficulties between the York Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of England, did not originate from the formation of the Grand Lodge of England, within the same political division, within the same jurisdiction. Not at all. The assembling at London was for convenience. The difficulty originated in the Grand Lodge of England, some say on account of innovations introduced by the Grand Lodge of England; others, that the Grand Lodge of England granted a charter to open a new Lodge in the city of York itself, without enquiry as to the merits of the case of applicants, in seceding from the Grand Lodge at York. We have been charged with the same kind of hasty and inconsiderate action in chartering Lodges in New Orleans. Our files and records would, if published, well defend this Grand Lodge against such a charge. It was only after having received complaints and petitions for years, and after the fullest and most mature consideration, that this Grand Lodge determined to interpose for the protection of Ancient York Masonry in Louisiana, in the only way, which would have produced a correction of the evils complained of, and which will, we are sure, sooner or later, effect a cure. We feel content to wait for the "sober second thought" of our sister Grand Lodges, and their better information on this subject, when they will adopt similar resolutions to those reported by the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of Tennessee, of which our distinguished Bro. Tannehill was chairman, and which were adopted by the Grand Lodge, as follows:

1st. That the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, which was established in 1812 as a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, had no right to enter into a concordat with the Grand Consistory for a transfer of the power of said Consistory over the Scotch and French rites.

2d. That the said Grand Lodge, by entering into the concordat aforesaid, and consenting to the cumulation of the Scotch and French, or Modern Rites, introduced palpable innovations into Ancient York Masonry; and that the said Grand Lodge of Louisiana of "accumulated rites" has forfeited her claim to the distinctive character of Ancient York Lodge.

3d. That the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, adopted and promulgated in 1844, contains principles and doctrines, and authorizes practices which are at variance with the well known Constitutional regulations of Ancient York Masons.

4th. The cumulation of the York, Scotch and Modern Rites will lead to inextricable confusion in the lectures and ceremonies which have been uniformly practised in all Ancient York Lodges in the United States.

5th. That if a Grand Lodge have a right to accumulate the Scotch and Modern Rites, it also possesses the power to accumulate other rites still more modern, and still claim to be an Ancient York Lodge—a claim which your committee deem altogether incapable of being sustained.

6th. That the "Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons" ought not, under existing circumstances, to be repudiated as illegal and clandestine—that there are strong reasons for sustaining it, and that this Grand Lodge should not withhold fraternal intercourse with it.

7th. That the Grand Lodge of Louisiana of "accumulated rites" should immediately dissolve the concordat—that the Grand Consistory should resume

its ancient position, and the Grand Lodge return to the ritual and ceremonies of Ancient York Masonry.

8th. That, in order to bring about a reconciliation of existing difficulties, if the two Grand Lodges cannot agree upon terms, the committee recommend that they refer the whole matter to five or seven well known and experienced brethren from different Grand Lodges, who shall examine the same, and whose decision shall be binding.*

We have been drawn off from our design, when we commenced our remarks upon Masonic Jurisdiction. It was our intention to allude to an inconsistency in the course of the Grand Lodge of New York. She inveighed strongly against what she was pleased to call, the invasion of the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana by Mississippi, by planting colonies of Ancient York Masons in that State, or rather assisting them to organize a government similar in form and in substance, to the other York Grand Lodges of the world, and in the same breath she claims the right to confer degrees upon our citizens who may be on a transient visit within her Jurisdiction, and says, in substance, that she would like to see a Mason thus made by her, treated otherwise than as a regularly made Mason, and she would know what to do in the case. Now, to our minds, of all invasions of Jurisdiction, this form is the very worst, and ought to be at once discontinued. It has been the means of introducing into the Fraternity, worthless men, who could only gain admittance by going to a place where they were not known, and then returning to enjoy a triumph over the chagrin and mortification of the Masons at home, or to sow discord in their ranks. The Grand Lodges have settled this matter within their several Jurisdictions, between the Subordinate Lodges, by forbidding such infringements of each others' rights—and it used to be considered good Masonic law, that Lodges violating this rule should pay over to the injured Lodge, all the fees received for the degrees, to deprive them of all pecuniary temptation to transgress. As it regards individuals living upon the borders of States, and when it is very inconvenient to attend any Lodge within their own State, a different rule should prevail, otherwise it would be a total deprivation in many instances, of any opportunity to obtain the degrees, and, if obtained, of Masonic association. The committee recommend the adoption of the resolutions, originating in Tennessee, and reported upon by this committee in 1848, and in addition thereto, the following :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hereby forbids the Subordinate Lodges within this Jurisdiction, to initiate, pass or raise any individual residing within the Jurisdiction of another Grand Lodge, excepting those who shall present a recommendation for that purpose, unanimously adopted at a regular meeting by the Lodge nearest the residence of the petitioner.

Resolved, That the above resolution be sent to the other Grand Lodges in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, and that they be respectfully requested to adopt a similar one.

If the border resolutions above referred to, be passed, the cases which they embrace would, of course, also come in as exceptions. The evil is an increasing one, and the better way is to avoid conflicts of Jurisdiction hereafter, by establishing immediately a uniform rule.

A LANDMARK DESTROYED.

It is asserted by the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Missouri, that the Grand Lodge of England has stricken out the words "free born" from the ritual. We have it from one who is recently from Ireland, and bears the diploma of the Grand Lodge of Ireland, that that Grand Lodge has done the same thing.

* Vermont has also taken sides with Mississippi, and the Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, as appears by proceedings received since the Grand Lodge adjourned.

The "Ancient Charge," which no man or body of men may change with impunity, thus reads:

Thirdly, That he that be made be able in all degrees; that is free born, of a good kindred; true, and no bondsmen, and that he have his right limbs as a man ought to have.

GRAND LODGE CERTIFICATES.

The committee are glad to perceive, that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New York has amended her Constitution as far as can be done by the vote of the Grand Lodge at one Communication, so as to no longer require a Grand Lodge certificate from visiting brethren.

EDUCATION.

The Committee would feel that they had neglected a very pleasant and important part of their duty, if they did not notice in their report, the subject of Education. We have heretofore made mention of the praiseworthy efforts of our brethren in North Carolina, Kentucky and Missouri, in this glorious cause. During the past year, the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, having accepted property proffered them by the citizens of Clarksville, and fifteen thousand dollars having been subscribed for the erection of suitable buildings, on the 22d day of February last, laid the corner stone with appropriate Masonic ceremonies, of a University, at Clarksville, in that State. The building, which it is expected will be finished on the first of September next, when completed, the trustees say, "that almost the first resolutions passed by them were the following:"

Resolved, That each Subordinate Lodge, working under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, be entitled to the gratuitous instruction of one Mason's child.

Resolved, That inasmuch as the brethren of Clarksville have undertaken to provide gratuitous board and lodging for a number of such beneficiaries as may be deputed by the Subordinate Lodges, that the Grand Master be requested to designate such as he may deem most entitled to the benefits of this provision.

The trustees state, "In passing the above resolutions, the board have been influenced by the ardent hope that the Grand Lodge will adopt such measures as will render its University the centre of a system of Education, under Masonic auspices, which will embrace every Lodge, and make adequate provision for every needy Mason's son within its Jurisdiction. This can be done only through the influence of a great central school, furnished with every facility for raising up from among our own children, a supply of teachers, expressly trained for the work of education, and bound to the interests of Masonry by the strongest ties of gratitude and obligation. Let provisions be made for the entire support of a number of beneficiaries, who shall be required after graduating, to return to their homes and organize a school, and teach for two or three years local Masonic schools, under direction of the Lodge sending them, and auxiliary to the University."

This is what is called a Normal School.

Since the first of January, 1849, one hundred and five students have been admitted to the different departments of the University.

* * * * *

We sincerely hope that this noble institution will prosper.

We are fortunate in Mississippi, in having a University at Oxford, in Lafayette county, supported at the expense of the State, already in operation, at which the tuition fees are extremely moderate; and being established upon similar principles as it regards freedom from sectarianism, as one would be if established by the Masonic Fraternity, and being upon a larger scale than any we could hope to erect, and, thereby, furnishing greater facilities for a complete

education, our surplus funds and the funds of Subordinate Lodges, can be devoted to the establishment of the schools to furnish pupils for the University; and, in addition, being relieved from the heavy expense of such an institution, we can dispose of our funds to the best advantage, and give to many, at home, a common school education, who would otherwise be deprived of the benefits of instruction, while a few only, under other and the most judicious arrangements, would be able to pass through a Collegiate course.

We had marked many passages in the reports and the proceedings of several of the Grand Lodges, to copy or comment upon, but we could not do so without extending this report beyond a reasonable length. We therefore conclude with the quaint address of Sir Allen Napier McNabb, Provincial Grand Master for Canada West, at the laying of the corner stone of the Town Hall, at the town of St. Catharines, on the thirtieth of October last:

"Men, women and children here assembled to-day to behold this ceremony, know all of you, that we be lawful Masons, true to the laws of our country, and established of old, with peace and honor, in most countries, to do good to our brethren, to build great buildings, and to fear God, who is the great Architect of all things. We have among us, concealed from the eyes of all men, secrets which may not be revealed, and which no man has discovered; but these secrets are lawful and honorable to know by Masons, who only have the keeping of them to the end of time. Unless our Craft were good and calling honorable, we would not have lasted so many centuries, nor should we have had so many illustrious brothers in our Order ready to promote our laws and further our interests. To-day we are here assembled in the presence of you all, to build a hall for the public use of this town, (to build a Masonic Temple, as we would say to suit this occasion,) which we pray God may prosper, if it seem good to him, that it may become a building for good men and good deeds, and promote harmony and brotherly love till the world itself shall end. So mote it be."

Respectfully submitted.

WM. P. MELLENS,

Grand Secretary and Ex-Officio Chairman Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to, and the resolutions adopted.

Bro. Rowlette moved to reconsider the vote, but the Grand Lodge refused to reconsider.

Bro. Spann presented the following report:

The undersigned Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation would most respectfully ask leave to report, that they have examined with diligent care, the various By-Laws, Proceedings and other documents, submitted to them for examination, and find all the proceedings and reports of the following Lodges under dispensation, to be correct, viz: Cedar Grove, Hyland, Hill City, Bethel, Danville, Edwards' Depot, Magnolia, Union, Tehula, and Thomastown.

The 8th section of the By-Laws of Byhalia Lodge which provides that in the absence of the W. M. and Wardens, the Secretary, or Treasurer, shall preside, should be amended.

Section 25 should be amended by adding "unless the Report be favorable."

Section 38 should be amended by striking out "a majority" and inserting "two-thirds."

The By-Laws of Carpenter Lodge should be so changed as to conform to the Rules, adopted by the Grand Lodge, for the trial of offending members. Snowsville Lodge has adopted the By-Laws of Louisville Lodge, No. 75, which have already been approved by the Grand Lodge.

The 12th Article of the By-Laws of Lowndes Lodge, and the 9th Article of

the By-Laws of Tchula Lodge, should be so changed as to conform to the Rules of the Grand Lodge adopted for the trial of offences.

Bovina Lodge has adopted the By-Laws of Vicksburg Lodge, already approved by the Grand Lodge.

The 2d Section of Article 7, of the By-Laws of Farmington Lodge should be so changed as to require a two-thirds vote to expel a member. Section 4, Article 8, of the same By-Laws should be so amended that the election be annual.

Your Committee, agreeably to the request of the petitions, recommend that the name of "Cedar Grove," be changed to that of Oak Ridge; "Carpenter" to that of Claiborne, and "Edwards Depot" to Unity.

Your Committee also recommend Charters be granted to the aforesaid Lodges upon the correction of the several errors above mentioned.

Your Committee would further report that they have had under consideration the petition of Bro. W. S. Patton and others, asking for dispensation to open a new Lodge at Lauderdale Springs in Lauderdale county, to be called Patton Lodge.

The petition of Bro. Thos. O. Hunter and others, for a new Lodge at Rice's Roads, Panola county, to be called Friendship.

The petition of Bro. Wheless and others, for a new Lodge at Greensboro, Carroll county, to be called Greensboro.

The petition of Bro. S. Watson and others, for a new Lodge at Centre Hill, DeSoto county, to be called Center Hill.

The petition of Bro. Wm. Beacham and others, for a new Lodge at Fulton, Itawamba county, to be called Fulton.

The petition of Bro. D. S. Wood and others, for a new Lodge at Alamutcha, — county, to be called Alamutcha.

The petition of Bro. W. A. Page and others, for a new Lodge at Flewellen's Roads, DeSoto county, to be called Solomon.

The petition of Bro. Rufus Byrd and others, for a new Lodge at Tallaloosa, Marshall county, to be called Tallaloosa.

And would respectfully recommend that dispensations be issued to them, according to the several prayers of the petitioners.

In conclusion, your Committee would remark that they notice with regret the great want of uniformity, and regularity, in the manner of work among the Lodges, which have been brought before them, and would respectfully recommend that some plan be devised by this Grand Lodge, to effect a more uniform system of operations.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. S. SPANN, Chm'n,
J. O. LUSHER,
F. BOSTWICK,
H. D. ROBINSON,
RICHARD COOPER,
L. B. BAINES,
WILLIAM BIGGS,
Committee.

On motion the report was received.

Bro. Youngblood moved to strike out "Dispensations" and insert Charters, but the motion was lost. The report was then, on motion agreed to.

Bro. Youngblood presented the following report:

The undersigned Committee on Subordinate Lodges would respectfully ask leave to report, that they have examined the returns of the several Subordinate Lodges, under this jurisdiction, and find them correct, with the exception, however, that a few of them are improperly certified by the officers for the present instead of the past year. They have examined the credentials of the following named representatives and find them correct:

Lodges Nos, 1, 2, 3, 5, 16, 17, 18, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35,

36, 37, 39, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 48, 49, 51, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63, 65, 66, 67, 68, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, 88, 89, 90, 92, 93, 94, 95, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105.

Your Committee would further report that they have examined the following By-Laws and amendments, to-wit :

Columbus No. 5, Section 1, of Article 3, has been so amended as to require the election of officers to take place on the 27th of December ; and Section 1, of Article 11, has been so amended as to make the fee for each degree ten dollars, which amendments should be approved.

Clinton No. 16, Section 1, of Article 2, provides for the election of officers twice in each year, and Section 2, of Article 7, fixes the fees at \$5, \$10, \$5. In the opinion of your Committee, these provisions should be changed so as to require the elections to be holden but once in each year, so that the installation be on the 27th of December ; also that the fee for each degree shall be ten dollars.

Quitman, No. 18, charges but five dollars for the Second Degree. It should be ten.

Raymond, No. 21, is correct.

Coleman, No. 29, Section 2, of Article 8, should be changed so as to make the fee for each degree ten dollars.

Olive Branch, No. 35, is correct.

Salem, No. 45, should amend their By-Laws so as to require ten dollars for each degree ; also, that the elections be but once in each year and the installation on the 27th of December.

Benjamin Franklin, No. 46, is correct.

Madison, No. 73, is correct.

Ebenezer, No. 76, Section 1, of Article 3, provides that, if the Master and Wardens are absent, the Secretary shall preside, and in his absence the Treasurer. This is an improper provision and should be changed.

Eastern Star, No. 79, is correct.

Scott, No. 80, is correct.

Coffeeville, No. 83, Section 1, of Article 4, should be so amended as to require ten dollars for each degree.

Philadelphia, No. 93, is correct.

East Port, No. 94, is correct.

All the other amendments of By-Laws, which have been submitted, are correct, excepting the variations in their fees and the time of holding their elections, all of which should be uniform—ten dollars for each degree. Elections of officers should be holden but once in each year and installations should always take place, if practicable, on the 27th of December.

Your Committee would further report that on the 29th November last, Locke Lodge, No. 52, surrendered its Charter, paying into the Grand Treasury, the amount due for each of its members. On the nights of the meetings of Harmony Lodge, No. 1, and Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 2, in the following month, a number of the members of Locke Lodge were received into the two Lodges above named and were, consequently, returned as members of those Lodges, to-wit : eight by Harmony Lodge and seven by Andrew Jackson Lodge. We, therefore, recommend that eight dollars be refunded to Harmony Lodge, and seven dollars to Andrew Jackson Lodge, such being the amounts severally paid by those Lodges, as dues to the Grand Lodge, on account of the above named members.

The following Lodges have petitioned for a remission of dues, in whole or in part to-wit :

Oxford, No. 33, Salem, No. 45, Greensboro, No. 49, Chulahoma, No. 55, Joseph Warren, No. 71, Wilson, No. 72, Coffeeville, No. 83, Pikeville, No. 85, Trinity, No. 88, Malone, 101.

Your Committee believe the system of remitting dues to be a growing evil, and one which, if persisted in, will lead to embarrassment of the Grand Treas-

ury—perhaps bankruptcy. They can conceive of no just grounds for remitting the dues of a Lodge, except in peculiar cases or under extraordinary circumstances, such as fire, flood, hurricane, earthquake, war, pestilence, famine, or extreme poverty of its treasury and membership. Your Committee would, therefore, respectfully recommend that the prayers of the petitioners be denied, but that the sum of fifty dollars be donated, out of the school fund, to each of the following named Lodges, for educational purposes, to-wit:

Salem, No. 45, Greensboro, No. 49, Chulahoma, No. 55, Jos. Warren, No. 71, Wilson, No. 72, Trinity, No. 88; and that the other petitioners, to-wit: Oxford, No. 33, Coffeeville, No. 83, Pikeville, No. 86, and Malone, No. 101, together with Sterling, No. 54, Westville, No. 43, and Sharon, No. 103, be allowed until the next Grand Annual Communication to pay their dues, and that Willis Lodge, No. 92, be allowed until the 1st of April next to pay its dues.

Lafayette Lodge, No. 53, asks to be allowed the further time of sixty days, and that the sum of five dollars allowed, to said Lodge, for errors made in 1848, in returning the number of members of said Lodge; which prayer, in the opinion of your Committee, should be granted.

Your Committee would further report that the present practice of appointing proxies, from members of other Lodges than those sought to be represented, is one that, in the opinion of your committee, is liable to lead to gross abuses and they are not prepared to say that it has not been abused, on former occasions. The sole object for permitting Subordinate Lodges to appoint representatives or their officers to appoint proxies, was to enable them to be represented in this body; but it has, in most cases, failed to answer the desired end. Furthermore, it may reasonably be presumed that it either has, on former occasions, been, or may hereafter be, if suffered to remain unchecked, perverted to improper purposes. Your committee are therefore of the opinion, that no Lodge, or officer of a Lodge, should be permitted to send a representative or proxy to this Grand Lodge, unless such representative or proxy is a member of the Lodge so sought to be represented.

Your committee would further report that, judging from the evidences before them, as contained in the reports and returns of the various Subordinate Lodges, our beloved Order is flourishing "like a tree planted by the rivers of water." It is spreading its branches over every county and neighborhood in our State; striking its roots deep into the soil of public favor, and its benign influences are rapidly bringing together "those who would otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance," and cementing them into one great band of brotherhood.

In conclusion, your committee would report the following resolutions, and recommend their adoption:

Resolved, That the various recommendations in reference to By-Laws, contained in the foregoing report, be and the same are hereby approved.

2d. That the foregoing recommendations, in reference to the remission of dues and extension of time, together with the recommendation in favor of Harmony and Andrew Jackson Lodges, be and they are hereby approved.

3d. That the sum of fifty dollars be and is hereby appropriated out of the School Fund, to each of the following named Lodges, to-wit:

Salem, No. 45; Chulahoma, No. 55; Wilson, No. 72; Greensboro, No. 49; Joseph Warren, No. 71; Trinity, No. 88.

4th. That hereafter no person shall be entitled to a seat in this Grand Lodge, by virtue of an appointment, as representative from any Subordinate Lodge, or proxy for any officer of a Subordinate Lodge, unless he is a member of the Lodge sought to be represented by such appointment.

On the subject of State Jurisdiction, your committee would report the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge fully concedes to the Lodges in all adjoining States upon our borders, the right and privilege of receiving and initiating into their Lodges, citizens of the State of Mississippi, residing on our borders, whose

residence shall be nearer such Lodge than to any Lodge in this State, and who may choose to apply for the same, in as free, full and ample manner as they receive the citizens of their own States respectively.

2d. That it be made the special duty of the R. W. Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge, to confer with the Grand Lodges in the adjoining States, to call their attention to this subject, and respectfully request them to adopt similar regulations, to the end that a permanent and reciprocal rule of action may be settled and established throughout all the Lodges on our respective borders.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. M. YOUNGBLOOD,
W. C. CHAMBERLAIN,
S. B. JONES,
THOS. J. HAWKINS,
J. R. BRANTLEY,
JAMES A. CHAPMAN,
W. W. COOK,
Committee.

On motion the report was received.

On motion of the chairman of the committee, the committee had leave to withdraw so much of the report and resolutions as relates to proxies.

The report, as amended, was then received and agreed to, and the resolutions reported were adopted.

On motion of Bro. Morris the Grand Lodge reconsidered the vote adopting the following resolution which was offered by him:

Resolved, That no resolution made by an individual member shall be printed in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge unless said resolution shall be adopted, in whole or in part.

And, on his motion, the resolution was rejected.

Bro. Martin presented the following report :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals beg leave to submit the following report : In the matter of the appeal of Bro. Bains, from Marion Lodge, No. 62, in the trial of Bro. Finley, your committee recommend to said Lodge a new trial of said Bro. Finley.

J. F. CUSHMAN,
WM. T. MARTIN,
S. E. WATTS,
WM. T. POWELL,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned, till 3 o'clock p. m.

THURSDAY, February 5, 3 o'clock, p. m.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

Bros. Cooper, Bains, Mattingley and Boothe, were added to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

Bro. Spann presented the following report :

The Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation, beg leave to report : That they have fully examined the minutes, By-Laws and returns of Moses Cook

Lodge, U. D., and are gratified to declare the work of that Lodge to have been performed correctly, their By-Laws consistent with the Constitution, and their returns properly made out.

Your Committee therefore recommend that a charter be granted to Moses Cook Lodge.

Respectfully submitted.

CHAS. S. SPANN,

L. A. BAINS,

WM. BIGGS,

J. O. LUSHER,

RICHARD COOPER,

F. BOSTWICK,

Committee.

On motion the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Youngblood presented the following report :

The undersigned Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report : That United Friends Lodge has made no returns for three years past, and for and in consideration of which neglect, your Committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That United Friends Lodge, No. 91, be and is hereby suspended.

Respectfully submitted,

H. M. YOUNGBLOOD, Chairman.

The report was received and agreed to, but, on motion of Bro. Hawkins, the resolution was amended by striking out all after the word "resolved," and inserting as follows :

That sixty days be, and are hereby, given to United Friends Lodge, No. 91, to make full returns and pay their dues in arrear, and if said returns be not made and dues paid within said period, said Lodge shall stand suspended from all work.*

Bro. McLelland presented the following report :

The Committee, to whom was referred a communication from the Grand Lodge of the State of Virginia, through its Grand Secretary, Bro. John Dove, in reference to a Masonic Text Book, compiled by Bro. Dove, said communication containing two resolutions adopted by said Grand Lodge, and accompanied by a copy of said Text Book, beg leave to report :

That they have examined the said communication, with the resolutions adopted by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and contained and set forth in said communication, and herewith report the same as a part of this report.

Your Committee have given the Text Book referred to, as careful and as thorough an examination as the time given, and the other duties devolving upon your Committee would permit. Your Committee perceive much in the aforesaid Text Book to approve and admire, and something therein contained, which, they regret to say, they are compelled to disapprove. These your Committee beg leave to point out without making it a part of this report.

Your Committee deem that a Text Book which this Grand Lodge would approve, and which would be received and conformed to by the Subordinate Lodges, is very much to be desired, and would tend much to promote that uniformity of work in all the Lodges within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge that is so desirable, but your Committee cannot believe that this desirable end will be accomplished by the adoption of the Text Book in question.

While your Committee feel deeply grateful to the Grand Lodge of Virginia for the liberal offer made to this Grand Lodge, as couched in the second resolution contained in the aforesaid communication, they feel bound by a sense of duty they owe to this Grand Lodge, and our Ancient Institution, to recommend that the offer of the Grand Lodge of Virginia be declined.

Your Committee therefore recommend the following resolutions, to-wit :

1. *Resolved*, That the proffer of the copy-right for this State, of the Masonic

*The returns have been made and the dues paid since the adjournment of the Grand Lodge. G. S.

Text Book, published by Bro. John Dove, by the Grand Lodge of Virginia, be respectfully declined.

2. *Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby instructed to inform the Grand Lodge of Virginia, of the action of this Grand Lodge, in reference to said Text Book.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JAS. B. MCLELLAND, Chairman.
THOS. J. HAWKINS,
H. M. YOUNGBLOOD.

Committee.

On motion of Bro. Cothran,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do grant the dispensation to Bro. W. J. Wheless and others, for a new Lodge at Greenwood, free of charge, the petitioners paying to the Grand Secretary his fee for issuing the same.

On motion of Bro. Hawkins,

Resolved, That Trinity Lodge, No. 88, be allowed until the next Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge to pay its dues for the years 1848 and 1849.

Bro. Martin offered the following :

Resolved, That when a Subordinate Lodge has expelled or indefinitely suspended a brother, and such action has been approved by the Grand Lodge, upon a report of such suspension or expulsion by the Subordinate Lodge, the consent of the Grand Lodge must be obtained, before said Subordinate Lodge can restore or reinstate such suspended or expelled brother.

On motion of Bro. Springer, the word "suspension" was stricken out, and the question being upon the adoption of the resolution, as amended, it was lost.

A motion was made to reconsider, which was also lost.

On motion of Bro. S. B. Jones,

Resolved, That the sum of fifty dollars be, and the same is hereby donated to Yannatta Lodge, No. 68.

On motion of Bro. Liddell,

Resolved, That Greensboro' Lodge, No. 49, be allowed until the next Annual Communication to pay its dues.

Bro. Youngblood offered the following as amendment to the Constitution :

Resolved, That the 4th section of the 3d article of the Constitution be so amended as to read as follows :

SEC. 4. Every Subordinate Lodge shall be represented in the Grand Lodge, by its officers, representatives, or proxies ; *Provided*, however, that no one shall be entitled to a seat in this Grand Lodge, (as a representative,) by virtue of a proxy from any officer or Lodge, unless he be a member of the Lodge so sought to be represented.

On motion of Bro. Hawkins, the resolution was laid upon the table.

Bro. Springer offered the following :

Resolved, That it is improper and unmasonic for any Subordinate Lodge to restore any Mason to the rights and benefits of Masonry, who has been indefinitely suspended therefrom, without first giving general notice to the members of the time at which a motion for that purpose will be made ; and that when such notice is given, the same proportion of the members present may remove the suspension, that were necessary to impose it.

On motion, the resolution was laid upon the table.

Bro. Dickens presented the following report :

The Committee on Accounts respectfully recommend the payment of the Grand Steward and Tyler's account, amounting to forty-four dollars and seventy-five cents, for services, lights, etc., the same having been found correct.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN R. DICKENS,
JAS. AITKIN,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. J. C. Patrick offered the following :

Resolved, That the measures adopted by the Willis party in the Grand Lodge of New York, in the late difficulty which occurred in said Grand Lodge, were characterized by a violence contrary to the principles of Free Masonry, and that while their riotous conduct was provoked by a measure revolutionary in its tendency and destructive of the existing rights of a portion of the original Grand Lodge, is a reproach to the cause of Free Masonry, cannot be justified by this Grand Lodge, but must receive their entire condemnation.

2. That this Grand Lodge has reviewed with pain and mortification, the transactions of the two parties in the Grand Lodge of New York, especially the extreme measures adopted by the party deeming themselves aggrieved by the majority of said Grand Lodge, and that this Grand Lodge do recommend to both parties, a calm, mild, and fraternal reconsideration of the whole subject.

On motion, the resolutions were laid upon the table.

Bro. Brantley offered the following :

Resolved, That the Grand Master be requested, and is hereby required to call a convention of Past Masters, to be held in the city of Jackson, on the third Monday of June next, for the purpose of adopting a uniform system of work throughout the State, and that the expenses in attending said convention, be defrayed by the Subordinate Lodges who may send representatives.

On motion, the resolution was laid upon the table.

Bro. Martin presented the following report :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals beg leave to report, that they have examined the appeal of Bro. Biggs, from Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, and believe that the Master of said Lodge was in error in refusing the appeal prayed by Bro. Biggs from a decision upon a point of order. The By-Laws of said Lodge provides that an appeal may be taken to the Lodge, upon all decisions of the Master upon points of order.

WILLIAM T. MARTIN,
LAWSON BOOTHE,
WM. T. POWELL,

RICHARD COOPER,
J. E. WATTS,
J. E. MATTINGLY,
L. B. BAINS,
Committee.

On motion, thy report was received,

And the question being upon agreeing to the report the same was decided in the negative.

On motion, it was

Ordered, That Camargo Lodge, U. D., making returns within sixty days, and the By-Laws and proceedings being approved by the Grand Secretary, a charter shall issue to said Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Callahan,

Resolved, That the surplus educational funds now in the treasury, be distributed *pro rata* among the Subordinate Lodges, according to the number of their members, excepting, however, those Lodges to whom donations have already been made.

Bro. Lusher offered the following, :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge elect one or more Grand Lecturers for the State, who shall be remunerated by the Lodges asking the services of such Lecturers.

A motion was made to lay the resolution on the table, which was lost.

Bro. Callahan moved to make it the special order for Tuesday next, which was not adopted.

The question being upon the adoption of the resolution, it was lost.

On motion of Bro. Lusher,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to have the necessary repairs done to the pavement and building, and to have the stations of the Grand Officers, etc., altered, as to make them more convenient, provided that said repairs and alterations do not exceed one hundred and fifty dollars.

Bro. McLelland offered the following :

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of each Subordinate Lodge, once in each year, previous to the first day of November, to summon before it all Master Masons, residing within its jurisdiction, not members of any Lodge, and who are considered able to contribute to the funds of the Lodge, and request such brethren to contribute a sum of money, annually, equal to the amount that it requires of each of its members each year ; but for sufficient reasons shown on the part of said brethren, the Lodge may, and it shall be its duty, to discharge said brethren from a compliance with said requisition. Any brother who shall refuse to pay said amount, when requested so to do, and whom the Lodge shall not excuse as aforesaid, shall incur, be subject to, and suffer the same penalties that said Lodge inflicts on any of its members, who neglects or refuses to pay the dues required of them.

2. That the names of the brethren thus contributing, or refusing to contribute, shall be returned annually to the Grand Lodge, and the penalty that each Lodge has inflicted on those who have refused to comply with the foregoing requisition of this Grand Lodge, which shall be published with the returns of the Subordinate Lodges.

3. That all resolutions heretofore adopted conflicting with the foregoing resolutions, be and the same are hereby rescinded.

The question being upon the adoption of the resolutions, the ayes and nays were called and the result was, ayes, 93, nays, 62. So the resolutions were adopted.

No further business appearing, after prayer by the Rev. Grand Chaplain, Bro. J. J. Meek, the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi was closed in Due Form.

WM. P. MELLETT, Grand Secretary.

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL COMMUNICATION, 1851.

NATCHEZ, February 3d, 1851.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form, at 12 o'clock, M.

PRESENT:

M. W. CHARLES SCOTT.....	Grand Master.
R. W. N. D. COLEMAN.....	Deputy Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
ABNER V. ROWE.....	Grand Senior Warden.
CHARLES S. SPANN.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
GEO. J. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
WM. T. MARTIN.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
A. B. BACON.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
J. O. LUSHER.....	Grand Marshal.
JAMES A. CHAPMAN.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
A. H. KENDRICK.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

R. W. W. H. STEVENS.....	Past Grand Sen. Warden.
A. B. BACON.....	Past Grand Orator.
H. M. YOUNGBLOOD.....	Past Grand Pursuivant.

Past Masters not now in the Chair—Geo. H. Gray, Clinton Lodge, No. 16 ; W. W. Cook, Gallatin, No. 25 ; Lawson Booth, Olive Branch, No. 34 ; J. C. Patrick, Grand Gulf, No. 41 ; L. Robinson, Salem, No. 45 ; Reuben Nason, Pythagorean, No. 48 ; Jos. Deutsch, Locke, No. 52 ; S. A. D. Steele, Lafayette, No. 53 ; C. S. Spann, Tappan, No. 59 ; C. R. Balfour, Madison, No. 73 ; Chas. Kopperl, DeWitt Clinton, No. 84 ; B. Evans, Trinity, No. 88 ; L. A. Powell, Bethel, No. 107 ; Samuel McClellan, Claiborne, No. 110.

Past Masters in other jurisdictions, now members of Lodges within this jurisdiction—W. S. Patton, Livingston Lodge, No. 41, Alabama ; Daniel S. Wood, Kenterbish, No. 103, Alabama ; Wm. H. McCargo, Tennessee.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—William T. Martin.
Andrew Jackson, No. 2—Henry Clarke, J. Deutsch.

Washington, No. 3—Moses Clarke.
Columbus, No. 5—W. W. Lester, proxy.
Clinton, No. 16—George Stokes.
Raymond, No. 21—Wm. H. Hampton.
Pearl, No. 23—J. R. Derryberry.
Lexington, No. 24—M. D. Johnson, proxy.
Gallatin, No. 25—W. W. Cook, proxy, D. K. Coor, G. G. Smith.
Vicksburg, No. 26—A. H. Rowlett, M. D. Johnson, proxy.
Coleman, No. 29—J. B. Burke, proxy.
Grenada, No. 31—Daniel Rosser.
Aberdeen, No. 32—Reuben Nason, proxy.
Oxford, No. 33—James M. Howry.
Olive Branch, No. 34—Joshua Burkhalter.
Carrollton, No. 36—W. Cothran.
Monroe, No. 39—Cornelius L. Mixon.
Grand Gulf, No. 41—Samuel Whitney.
Yazoo, No. 42—Geo. M. Powell.
Shady Grove, No. 43—Wm. D. Terry, Proxy.
Salem, No. 45—L. Robinson.
Benjamin Franklin, No. 46—Wm. M. Porter.
Pythagorean, No. 48—James S. Hemphill, proxy.
Greensboro', No. 49—P. F. Liddell.
Hernando, No. 51—Geo. Foote.
Lafayette, No. 53—Samuel A. D. Steele.
Sterling, No. 54—Henry F. Miller.
Chulahoma, No. 55—A. M. Lucas, proxy.
Mississippi, No. 56—Charles Tullis.
Thomas Hinds, No. 58—H. M. Youngblood.
Tappan, No. 59—M. T. Anderson, C. S. Spann, proxy.
St. Albans, No. 60—Wm. H. Lott.
Marion, No. 62—Benj. F. Parke.
Asylum, No. 63—B. F. Yerby.
DeKalb, No. 64—James Watts.
Silas Brown, No. 65—D. N. Barrows, L. V. Dixon.
Houston, No. 67—J. A. Orr.
Vannatta, No. 68—Richard Cooper.
Evening Star, No. 70—John W. Stanley.
Wilson, No. 72—P. Lee Phillips.
Madison, No. 73—C. R. Balfour, proxy.
Louisville, No. 75—G. M. Davis, proxy.
Ebenezer, No. 76—Daniel N. Harris.
Evergreen, No. 77—E. Bradshaw.
Westville, No. 78—Alvin Myers, proxy.
Eastern Star, No. 79—W. C. Lemay.
Scott, No. 80—J. W. Woffard.
Pontotoc, No. 81—E. W. Rootes.
Coffeeville, No. 83—A. S. Campbell.
DeWitt Clinton, No. 84—C. Kopperl, proxy; W. Kelly.
Pikeville, No. 85—H. L. Hill, proxy.
Mt. Moriah, No. 86—Benj. Holt, proxy.
Prairie, No. 87—J. W. Speight.
Trinity, No. 88—B. Evans, proxy; J. W. Godfrey.
United Friends, No. 91—Thomas J. Linkens.
Philadelphia, No. 93—W. H. Slaughter, proxy.
Emory, No. 95—Tho. J. Hawkins, proxy.
Utica, No. 98—L. J. Fatheree.
DeSoto, No. 100—Wm. L. Owen.
Malone, No. 101—T. W. Caskey, proxy.
Pearl River, No. 105—John A. Hanson.

Union, No. 106—Lawson Boothe, proxy.
 Bethel, No. 107—L. A. Powell.
 Claiborne, No. 110—W. R. Lackey, Samuel McClellan, proxy.
 Moses Cook, No. 111—S. P. Pierce, proxy.
 Bovina, No. 112—Wm. Cox, proxy.
 Hyland, No. 113—Wm. B. Guy, proxy.
 Lowndes, No. 114—W. Barksdale.
 Byhalia, No. 115—J. C. Babb.
 Unity, No. 117—M. W. Phillips.
 Camargo, No. 118—B. S. Trice.
 Magnolia, No. 120—W. H. Cleveland.
 Hill City, No. 121—Wm. H. Stevens, N. D. Coleman.
 Tchula, No. 122—J. S. Meng.
 Thomastown, No. 124—G. H. Roby.

Delegates from Lodges Under Dispensation :

Centre Hill—W. H. McCargo.
 Patton—W. S. Patton.
 Alamutcha—D. S. Woods.
 Water Valley—P. C. Woods.
 Mellen—Ed. Brown.
 Bay of St. Louis—Cadwallader Lewis.

Prayer by T. W. Caskey, Grand Chaplain, pro tem.

The Grand Master addressed the Grand Lodge as follows :

Brethren of the Grand Lodge :

Again you have assembled under the Constitution to counsel with one another, and legislate for the general welfare of our Order ; and we should earnestly endeavor to keep and preserve in our deliberations that unity of feeling and sentiment which should characterize our intercourse as Masons. Peace and harmony prevailed amongst the workmen at the building of the first temple, which was planned by our ancient Masters and constructed by them under the guidance of Jehovah. Every piece of timber and every block of marble were nicely prepared and fitted to their places, so that when the work was finished, Mount Moriah shone with the glory of that temple, and was crowned with a beautiful Masonic symbol of Union and Friendship.

It is the source of much pride and pleasure to know that our beneficent institution is distinguished for its prosperity in every portion of the civilized earth. Its sublime principles and doctrines are productive of the happiest results on the moral and intellectual condition of the Craft, wherever they may be dispersed around the globe. The mystic lights are shining in all nations, while our rights and benefits are dispensed to all who are desirous, and are worthy and well qualified to receive them. But in no country is our Order more highly appreciated than in the American States. The voice of prejudice is hushed into silence. The spirit of party has ceased its ravings, while the strong arm of legislative tyranny is no longer raised to destroy the Holy House which our forefathers erected. Time, patience and perseverance triumphed over all opposition, and Free and Accepted Masons now fully enjoy the peaceful observance of their ancient rights and the sublime work of truth and benevolence. In every State of the American Confederacy the progress of Freemasonry is onward. The great body of the Fraternity is actuated by the noblest impulses, and are awakened to new convictions of Masonic duty and obligation. Dormant energies have been aroused to vigorous action, and a spirit of enlightened inquiry pervades the Craft. Eager to comprehend the profound mysteries of the Order, many noble workmen are being led by the Greater Light, that they may explore the regions of moral philosophy and religious truth. The sun of Divine Revelation casts its luminous rays over our dark and degraded nature, but the great truth of the majesty of the Holy

Scripture would brood over the restless waters, like some smiling angel with the light of heaven on her brow.

In the limits of our own Jurisdiction, Masonry has certainly assumed an elevated position. The Fraternity has greatly increased, and, with a few exceptions, we are assured that those who have been united to us are men of moral and intellectual worth. The unworthy should never be permitted to enter our temple or profane its altars. We should carefully scrutinize the character of every candidate for the mysteries; the strictest examination should be made into the history of his life and conduct; and no one should ever pass the porch of our mystic edifice, or enter the middle chamber until he has been duly and truly prepared. A Fellow Craft should not be raised to the degree of Master until his mind is fully invested with the principles of the preceding degree. If the first and second steps have been cautiously and considerately taken we may reasonably expect that he may be rightfully conducted into the Holy of Holies, and walk in that solemn retreat, and have his soul filled with our loftiest impulses. There are too many Lodges unmindful of their duties in yielding to the solicitations of candidates to be passed and raised. A little reflection will teach us that no one should be permitted to take the second degree until he be thoroughly grounded in the first degree, and in no case, other than one of emergency, should the third degree be conferred until the candidate has manifested suitable proficiency in the principles of Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft. We know of a period in the history of our Order when the conference of the third degree was regarded as a mark of the highest honor, and when none but men of moral and intellectual worth could enter on the Master's carpet. The Entered Apprentice represents one who has commenced a great moral undertaking, and must call into requisition his best energies to reach that eminence, which few of the Craft have attained. It requires no great labor to obtain all the degrees of Ancient Masonry, to possess a knowledge of its ritual, and become familiar with its forms and ceremonies, but it is a stupendous work to learn and understand the deep and profound mysteries of our institution. Every one must be his own architect, and the builder of his own house. The great designs are laid out on the Masonic tracing-board, and he must pursue them strictly, if he would present a suitable specimen of moral work, with his mark upon it. There is being erected upon the summit of the celestial Moriah a temple whose foundations are eternal. Its corner stone was laid by the Grand Master of the Universe at the fall of man. It has been in progress for ages, and is yet unfinished. Its beautiful materials will be furnished from this far-off country; many immortal ashlers have been taken thither and placed in the massive structure, but many more must be prepared, marked, numbered and approved ere that temple can be finished, and its coping-stone brought forth with shouting and praise.

The Constitutions of Freemasonry have charged us to preserve inviolably the ancient landmarks; but how can we obey the injunction if we know not the boundaries of our moral domain? Our territories seem to be without limit, and bordering on the kingdom of the skies. Its metes and bounds can only be discerned by the spiritual eye. But these are peculiar marks of distinction by which we may be set apart from the world. There is a clear title to the region of light, which has been handed down from generation to generation;—an unwritten deed, which contains words of perpetuity, and which embraces all the sons of knowledge. We have certain universal laws which are regarded as landmarks. Our language and laws, our ceremonies and usages must be preserved. Ignorance, or the spirit of innovation, might mar the beauty and symmetry of our institution, whose foundation covers the grave of original innocence and whose structure rises sublimely above the ruins of death.

A spirit of improvement is abroad in the land. The political and moral worlds are in agitation. Literature and science have taken up their march, and wonderful are the developments of the age. Mighty are the interpositions of thought and the triumphs of principle, and let us not be unmindful of our Masonic duties. Survey the map of Masonry. It embraces the world. It is

confined to no narrow circle. It has travelled, as did St. Paul, from the east to the uttermost bounds of the west. The science of our Order comprehends the social, intellectual and eternal welfare of man. It would make him fall in love with virtue. It would instruct him in the way of moral preparation, and point to the grave, that he might be reminded of immortality.

The governments of the earth are awakened to a lively and practical sense of the importance and value of mental culture. Austria, Prussia, Germany, France, England and many of the United States, have embarked in the magnanimous enterprise of public instruction. They have done much, but a vast field is open for further usefulness and nobler manifestations. The area of Masonic charity covers the earth. Our domain is broader than Europe or America. Our cause is that of civilization and truth. The channels of charity are as multifarious as the moral and physical wants of the human race, and the rules and principles of our Order are adapted to every necessity and emergency. Regarding the human soul as in a state of progression to another and a higher region of existence, every nerve should be strung and every effort exerted to develop its immortal energies. The education of human beings, says an eloquent writer, considered in the most extensive sense, comprehends everything that is requisite to the cultivation and improvement of the faculties bestowed upon them by the Creator. Our moral wants may be said to be much greater in this life than our physical necessities; and it is our bounden duty to aid and assist each other in the time of need and distress. The principle of Masonic charity is not limited to a particular sphere. It would relieve the penury of the widow and respond to the cries of the orphan. It would carry comfort and peace to the bereaved circle of a departed brother. It would feed the hungry and clothe the naked. It makes provision for the poor, whom God has said we shall not always have with us. But charity is something more than all this. If it clothed the naked it would provide vestments of love, wherein the soul should be enrobed; if we would feed the hungry it would furnish food for the perishing mind. If a worthy member calls on us for assistance we are ever ready to afford it; if a widow or orphan of a deceased member of our Craft should signify a want it will be supplied. And how many of our brethren are too poor to educate their children; how many orphans are destitute of moral and intellectual instruction, who might be provided for by the Fraternity, if we would husband our resources and judiciously expend them for the purposes of education. Let us not argue the impossibility of providing an education fund. A willing and united effort will crown the enterprise with success. Where is the Lodge in our State which would not gladly set apart a portion of its dues for such a purpose; and where is the unaffiliated member of the Craft who would not contribute to so great and philanthropic an undertaking, and present his annual offering on the altar of benevolence? Other Grand Lodges have set a wholesome example. Kentucky, Missouri, Alabama and Tennessee have embarked in the cause of education. We will do well to imitate this course.

There are other subjects of interest which will, doubtless, challenge the consideration of this Grand Lodge, and to which I need not more specially direct your attention. May wisdom guide us in our labors. Let us be prudent and cautious in our deliberations. Freemasonry is a powerful instrument in the hands of enlightened Craftsmen to enable them to carry light and liberty to the benighted nations of the world. It is not religion—it is not christianity, though it furnishes many beautiful and splendid illustrations of Biblical truth. The Masonic Ladder, which is emblematical of that which Jacob in his vision saw, has three rounds denominated Faith, Hope and Charity. The genius of Masonry may teach us something of these Christian graces, and point to their celestial origin. But the word of inspired wisdom informs us that they are born of the spirit, and are a smiling offspring of a new creation—a trine of lovely sisters, with hands linked together, they form a part of that mystic circle, whose common centre is the God of the Universe. The excellence of fraternal unity distinguished the temple worship, and was manifested in the com-

munings of the ancient people of God, when they assembled to praise his holy name; and Levites, on their return from captivity, entered the sanctuary and united in harmonious worship of their great deliverer and praised him with psalms of gladness. Then "Behold! how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the head that ran down upon the beard—even Aaron's beard—that went down to the skirts of his garment, as the dew of Hermon and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion, for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life forever more."

On motion, the Grand Master's Address was ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

The Grand Master presented, in behalf of Bro. Jeremy L. Cross, to the Grand Lodge, an elegant copy of Cross' Chart; and, on motion, Bros. Bacon, Hawkins and Gray were appointed a Committee to draft a resolution expressing, in a suitable manner, the thanks of the Grand Lodge.

The Grand Master then announced the following Standing Committees:

On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. W. T. Martin, James M. Howry and J. A. Orr.

On Subordinate Lodges—Bros. J. W. Speight, W. Barksdale, W. B. Guy Wm. L. Owen, J. L. Fatheree, Wm. B. Slaughter, Thomas J. Hawkins, Daniel Rosser, William H. Hampton, W. W. Lester, A. H. Rowlett, T. W. Caskey, Lawson Boothe, G. H. Roby, Wm. H. Cleveland, W. Cothran, Charles Tullis, B. S. Trice, George H. Gray, L. A. Powell, William C. Lemay.

On Unfinished Business—Bros. P. Lee Phillips, G. M. Davis, D. N. Harris, E. Bradshaw, H. S. Hill.

On Accounts—Bros. L. V. Dixon, George Foote, H. M. Youngblood, J. A. Hanson.

ON LODGES UNDER DISPENSATION.—Bros. Charles S. Spann, Reuben Nason, Richard Cooper, E. Bradshaw, Wm. M. Porter, James Watts, B. F. Yerby, M. T. Anderson, William H. Lott, John W. Stanley, C. R. Balfour, E. W. Rootes, Samuel Whitney.

The Grand Master appointed the following

SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

ON CHARITY—Bros. Geo. W. Stokes, D. N. Barrows, J. B. Burke.

ON EDUCATION—Bros. M. W. Phillips, N. D. Coleman, Chas. Kopperl.

On motion of Bro. Orr,

Resolved, That the Committee on Subordinate Lodges be instructed to report in what cases, if any, appeals lie from the decision of a Worshipful Master, to the Lodge over which he is presiding.

On motion of Bro. Hawkins,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge appoint a committee of five, whose duty it shall be to adopt a uniform system of Work and Lectures, in the first three degrees of Masonry, which shall be the only system recognized in this jurisdiction, and report the same as soon as practicable.

Whereupon, the Grand Master appointed, to form said Committee, Bros. Stevens, Howry, Hawkins, Cothran, Stokes and Spann.

Brother Speight presented certain resolutions of Prairie Lodge, No. 87, relative to non-affiliated brethren; and on his motion, they were referred to a special committee.

The Grand Master appointed Bros. Speight, Rowe and Youngblood such committee.

Several petitions for dispensations to form new Lodges were presented, and severally referred to the Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation.

On motion of Bro. Cooper,

Resolved, That a Committee of seven be appointed to take into consideration the subject of dividing the State of Mississippi into a suitable number of Masonic Districts, under the provision of the 2d Section of the 5th Article of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, and that said Committee be instructed to report as early as practicable.

The Grand Master appointed Bros. Cooper, Dixon, Barrows, Hanson, Gray, Rowlett and Nason, such Committee.

Bro. Burke presented the following, which was adopted :

WHEREAS, A communication was sometime since received by Coleman Lodge, No. 29, from the Grand Secretary, to the effect that a representation had been made to him, by an individual in the city of New York, that the jewels of said Lodge, had been furnished by said individual many years ago, and are not yet paid for ; be it,

Resolved, That a special committee of three be appointed, whose duty it shall be to inquire into the circumstances attending the purchase of said Jewels, and report thereon to this Grand Lodge, that such final action shall be had as will comport with justice to both the parties interested.

Bros. Burke, Steele and Gray were appointed to compose said Committee.

On motion of Bro. Nason,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge recommend to all Lodges under its jurisdiction, that they celebrate in an appropriate manner, on the 4th day of November, 1852, the One Hundredth Anniversary of the reception of the illustrious WASHINGTON into the Masonic Fraternity.

2. That this Grand Lodge respectfully recommend the adoption of a similar resolution to all Grand Lodges with which it holds correspondence, and that the Grand Secretary communicate a copy of these resolutions, to said Grand Lodges.

Bro. Geo. Foote presented the appeal of James H. Freeman, from Hernando Lodge, No. 51, which, on his motion, was referred to Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

A memorial from Mr. Levi Dolbear and Mr. Nicholas Gahan, praying that the rents of the rooms, now occupied by them, should not be raised, was presented and referred to Bros. Deutsch, Clark and Kendrick.

On motion of Bro. Foote, 10 o'clock, A. M., on Tuesday, the 4th instant, was designated as time for the election of officers.

Bro. M. W. Phillips presented a memorial of Unity Lodge, No. 117, which was referred to the Special Committee on Education.

Bro. Hampton presented a memorial of Clinton Lodge, No. 16, which was referred to same Committee.

Bro. Holt offered the following :

Resolved, That all motions, resolutions and Reports of Committee on Education be made the special order of the day at 3 o'clock, to-morrow.

On motion, the resolution was laid upon the table.

Bro. Stanley presented a memorial from Bro. Geo. W. Hively, which on motion of Bro. M. W. Phillips, was referred to a special committee of three.

The Chair appointed Bros. M. W. Phillips, Bacon and Slaughter such committee.

Bro. Rowlett presented certain Resolutions of Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, offering the use of their hall, for the use of the Grand Lodge, in case of a removal

of the Communications of the Grand Lodge from Natchez to Vicksburg, which were on motion, referred to a committee of five consisting of Bros. Barksdale, Martin, Rowe, Youngblood and Bacon.

Bro. Barrows presented a similar offer on the part of the Masonic Bodies of Jackson, which, on motion, was referred to same committee.

Bro. M. W. Phillips presented certain amendments to By-Laws of Unity Lodge, No. 117, which was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

The complaint of Quitman Lodge, No. 18, in relation to Bro. Gresham, was received and referred to Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

Bro. Rosser presented the memorial of DeWitt Clinton Lodge, No. 84, which was also received and referred to Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

On motion of Bro. Burke,

Resolved, That the Committee on Education be instructed to inquire into and report on the propriety of paying T. C. Thornton, Principal of Brandon College and Academy, the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars, for the education of the orphan children of ——— Chisholm, a Master Mason.

The memorial of Eastern Star Lodge, No. 79, in relation to William Peebles was presented by Bro. Lemay, and referred to Bros. Grand Secretary, Grand Senior and Grand Junior Wardens.

The Grand Lodge adjourned until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.

TUESDAY, 4th February, 1851, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. W. CHARLES SCOTT.....	Grand Master.
R. W. N. D. COLEMAN.....	Deputy Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
ABNER V. ROWE.....	Grand Senior Warden.
CHARLES S. SPANN.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
GEORGE J. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
WM. T. MARTIN.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
D. N. BARROWS.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
J. O. LUSHER.....	Grand Marshal.
JAMES A. CHAPMAN.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
ANSEL H. KENDRICK.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Past Grand Officers and Past Masters the same as on yesterday.

The same members of the Grand Lodge, with the addition of the following :

Raymond, 21, R. Warner, proxy of S. W.

Panola, 66, R. Cleland, proxy of J. W.

Coahoma, 104, D. A. Harrington, proxy of W. M.

Bro. Geo. H. Gray presented a copy of the "Mystic Circle" to the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro Hampton, it was referred to a committee of three.

The Chair the appointed Bros. Hampton, Hall and Foote upon said committee.

The Grand Secretary presented his annual Account Current, with the following report:

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The undersigned Grand Secretary, respectfully reports that in obedience to the instructions of the Grand Lodge, given at the last Grand Annual Communication, he issued charters to the following named Lodges, to-wit:

Union Lodge, No. 106, Bethel, No. 107, Carrollville, No. 108; Danville, No. 109, Carpenter, No. 110, Moses Cook, No. 111, Bovina, No. 112, Hyland, No. 113, Lowndes, No. 114, Byhalia, No. 115, Farmington, No. 116, Unity, No. 117, Camargo, No. 118, Snowsville, No. 119, Magnolia, No. 120, Hill City, No. 121, Tchula, No. 122, Oak Ridge, No. 123, Thomastown, No. 124.

And Dispensations for the following named, to-wit:

Centre Hill, at Centre Hill, DeSoto county.
Solomon, at Flewellen's \times Roads, DeSoto county.
Friendship, at Rice's \times Roads, Panola county.
Tallaloosa, at Tallaloosa, Marshall county.
Patton, at Lauderdale Springs, Lauderdale county.
Alamutch, at Alamutch, Lauderdale county.
Fulton, at Fulton, Itawamba county.
Water Valley, at Water Valley, Yalobusha county.
Summerville, at Summerville, Noxubee county.
Greenwood, at Greenwood, Carroll county.

Under the directions of the Grand Master, Dispensations for the following Lodges, viz:

Lodi, at Lodi, Choctaw county.
Charles Scott, at Barrow's Ferry, Simpson county.
Falconer, at John S. Sansom's, Clarke county.
Mellen, at Chunkeyville, Lauderdale county.
Castillian, at Castillian Springs, Holmes county.
Benela, at Benela, Chickasaw county.
Waterford, at Waterford, Marshall county.
Jacinto, at Jacinto, Tishomingo county.
Dalton, at Aberdeen, Monroe county.
Dabney Lipscomb, at Crawfordsville, Lowndes county.
Looxahoma, at Looxahoma, DeSoto county.
Jefferson, at Scooba, Kemper county.
Bay of St. Louis, at Shieldsborough, Hancock county.
Lamar, at Lamar, Marshall county.

Two thousand copies of the Constitution and General Regulations of the Grand Lodge have been printed and distributed, as required by the Grand Lodge.

In obedience to instructions, copies of the resolutions, which were directed to be sent to the adjoining Grand Lodges, were transmitted, immediately after the close of the Grand Lodge last year, to all excepting Louisiana. The Louisiana Grand Lodge had ceased to exist, and no communication had then, nor even to this time, has been received by the undersigned from the body now calling itself the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. Mutual interdicts were still in force, and though the undersigned had learned, unofficially, that the Louisiana Grand Lodge was merged in the old Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and that the arrangements were satisfactory to our Ancient York Brethren, and had examined a copy of the new Constitution of the old Grand Lodge, furnished him by a friend and brother, P. G. M. Thomas H. Lewis, and saw nothing particularly objectionable therein, he thought it due to the dignity of this Grand Lodge not to do any act which would obstruct the free expression of opinion of this Grand Lodge upon the present organization of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. In the meantime, the undersigned has advised Lodges and brethren, who have

sought his opinion, to scrupulously respect the jurisdiction which would probably be claimed by the new body.

He has also transmitted the resolutions, relative to initiations of individuals—visitors from other jurisdictions—to the several Grand Lodges with which we are in correspondence. In acknowledging the receipt of his communication, the Grand Secretaries of Massachusetts and Georgia, Bros. Moore and Rose, state that such a law is already in force within their respective States.

The receipts from all sources, during the past year were.....\$6,912 68
The expenditures for all purposes during the same time..... 4,479 40

Balance of receipts over expenditures.....\$2,433 28

Which exceeds the estimate \$500 28.

Deduct amount carried this day to school fund..... 1,728 17

Balance in Treasury.....\$ 705 11

To which add balance in Treasury last year..... 959 89

Total amount to general account in the Treasury, as will be seen by
the Grand Treasurer's accounts.....\$1,665 00

The School Fund, which was in the Treasury last year, amounting to \$1770.50, was ordered to be distributed among the Subordinate Lodges which had not received a special appropriation at the last Grand Annual Communication. No particular mode of distribution was pointed out, and the dividends generally, were of such amounts as to make the remittance by mail extremely inconvenient, the undersigned, believing that it would be for the interest of those Subordinate Lodges, informed them by circular that he would give them credit for their respective dividends, in settlement of their dues at the present Grand Annual Communication, and has charged himself with the Fund for that purpose. He has credited each of the recipient Lodges with fifty cents for each member returned last year, which will be sufficient within a fraction, to cover the whole amount ordered to be distributed. A special account of this distribution will be duly rendered.

The following estimate is made for 1851. It may vary a few hundred dollars from the true amounts, though great care was taken to make it accurate.

Estimate of Receipts for 1851.

Rents.....	\$ 275 00
4000 Members of Subordinate Lodges.....	2000 00
3000 Degrees.....	3000 00
Charters and Dispensations.....	800 00
Total.....	\$6075 00

Estimate of Expenses.

Mileage and per diem.....	\$3420 00
Grand Secretary's fees and Contingency.....	800 00
Printing.....	400 00
Repairs.....	275 00
Grand Tyler.....	60 00

Total.....\$4955 00

Excess of Receipts..... 1120 00

But this is made without any calculation for defaults, which, if considered, would perhaps leave the receipts and expenditures about balanced.

But few Lodges are in arrear for dues, and but one failed last year to make returns.

Twenty-one Lodges, in arrear, owe \$1393 50. To ten of these Lodges time was given last year.

The Grand Lodge last year remitted to Subordinate Lodges	\$ 80 00
Donated to seven Subordinate Lodges, for school purposes, \$50 each....	350 00
Distributed of School Fund.....	1770 51

Total.....	\$2200 51
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In the Grand Secretary's report last year certain losses of remittances of money by mail were mentioned. To those Lodges which produced the Post Master's certificate of the actual mailing of the money, the Grand Lodge gave credit for the money lost. Two of the Lodges, Tchula and Fulton, failed last year to present their certificates of mailing, and were required to pay for their dispensations. Since then they have produced those certificates, which are now submitted. It will require a resolution of the Grand Lodge for a credit of \$30 each, the amount lost, to be given to them, as the law which now exists upon this subject was not then adopted. The undersigned wrote to Bro. John A. Wilcox, in relation to the matter of St. John's Lodge, immediately after the adjournment of the Grand Lodge last year, and received in answer, a communication, of which mention was made in a note subjoined to the Grand Secretary's report in the printed proceedings. It appears by Bro. Lott's receipt that he still has in hand \$26 90 of the funds of St. John's Lodge. After receiving Bro. Lott's receipt, the undersigned wrote to him, and requested him to remit the balance due, but no answer has as yet been received.

The Grand Lodge instructed the undersigned to have certain alterations in Hall and repairs to the pavement made, and appropriated \$150 for that purpose. The undersigned has had partial repairs made to the pavement, and the necessary alterations, for the convenience of the officers of the Grand Lodge, made to the Hall. The appropriation was found altogether insufficient for the purposes mentioned. The whole expense is about \$256. The plan was carried out and the work finished at the suggestion of brethren of the Masonic bodies in the city of Natchez, who agreed to make up any deficiency which the appropriations of the Grand Lodge might fail to cover. The bills to the amount of the appropriation to which the undersigned was restricted, have been paid.

The blinds and exterior wood-work will need painting the present year, as well as some portions of the interior; a new gate, which should be of iron, is required between the Hall and the adjoining property, and the fence which separates the tenements in the back yard requires rebuilding.

The rents of the rooms in the basement story, will always be sufficient to meet all expenses for repairs, though a building as large and of the character of this, requires constant attention. The rent of one tenant has been raised to \$15 per month, and the other may be safely increased at the end of the term of the present tenant, in April next.

The case of Macon Lodge No. 40, against John H. Russell, on appeal by the latter, was continued last year for want of the papers. They have since been sent up and are herewith submitted.

The undersigned also presents Bro. Reuben Nason's protest against certain proceedings of Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32.

Also, G. W. Harlow's charges against Trinity Lodge, No. 88.

Also, a communication from Bro. R. H. Boone, Worshipful Master of Danville Lodge, No. 109, and another from Bro. A. B. Dilworth, Worshipful Master of Jacinto Lodge, on the same subject in part, raising a question on the propriety of initiating a candidate under particular circumstances therein mentioned. Another question is propounded by Bro. Boone relative to a non-affiliated brother.

The petition of Holmesville Lodge, No. 69, for remission of dues in part, is also presented.

The papers sent up by Eureka Lodge, No. 61, and arrived the day after the adjournment of the Grand Lodge last year, he has also the honor to present.

A petition for a new Lodge at Orizaba, Tippah county, by Bro. A. G. Frazier and others.

A petition for a new Lodge at Gaddis' Store, Leake county, by Bro. R. J. Edmonds and others.

A petition for a new Lodge at Centre Ridge, Kemper county, by Michael Ross and others.

Special and polite invitations to the officers and members of the Grand and Subordinate Lodges of Mississippi, to attend and assist at the laying the corner stone of a monument to George Washington, at Richmond, Virginia, from the Grand Lodge of Virginia; to attend the celebration of the hundredth anniversary of Hiram Lodge, No. 1, at New Haven, Connecticut; and to attend the celebration of the union of the St. John's Grand Lodge of New York, with the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New York, were received during the past year by the undersigned, with a request that he would give circulation to the invitations. Only the second one came in time to enable him to comply with the requests. The receipts of these invitations were acknowledged by the undersigned, and thanks returned in the name of the invited.

The undersigned has the honor to lay before the Grand Lodge the subjoined communication from the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. P. MELLE, Grand Secretary.

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
GRAND LODGE OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. }

March 22d, A. L. 5850.

To the M. W. Grand Master, R. W. Grand Wardens, Officers and Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi:

BRETHREN—At a Special Communication of our Grand Lodge, held on the 20th of February last, among other proceedings was the adoption of the following resolutions:

WHEREAS, This Masonic Jurisdiction, although situated at the seat of Government, is small, and unable to erect a suitable building for Masonic purposes, for which a building is desirable here, to accommodate sojourning brethren constantly assembling here from all parts of this great nation; therefore,

Resolved, That the several Grand Lodges in the United States, in correspondence with this Grand Lodge, be fraternally requested to invite the Masonic Brotherhood to unite in a subscription, for the purpose of erecting, in the city of Washington, a central Masonic Temple, to be dedicated to the memory of our illustrious brother, George Washington, and to be owned by the Masonic fraternity of the United States of America, and to be in charge of the Freemasons of the District of Columbia, under such regulations as trustees, to be appointed by this Grand Lodge, shall prescribe. And that they be requested to forward any contributions that may be received to B. B. French, the Grand Master of this District.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to communicate this resolution to each Grand Lodge in the United States, with such a letter as he may think proper.

In accordance with the requisitions of the latter, I shall, in communicating the same to your Most Worshipful Body, accompany it with such observations upon the subject matter, deemed not only to be proper, under the circumstances, but necessary to fully elucidate the propriety of the appeal which is now made to our brethren throughout the Union; an appeal dictated by an utter inability to accomplish the object ourselves, but which we have forborne making until its propriety was suggested by many distinguished Masons from other Jurisdictions, present at the meeting of the 20th of February last, and the confident

hope, engendered by their hearty approval of the project, of a favorable response to such appeal.

The brethren here, on a former occasion, undertook the erection of a Hall, and completed the same, but the limited Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and of consequence the few Lodges and members from whom aid could be derived to meet the expense of the building, caused them to contract a large debt, which subsequent events prevented them from liquidating, and the accruing interest ultimately absorbed the cash investments made, and the Hall passed, after great struggling and sacrifice of means, into private hands. Since that time the Craft have held their meetings at divers places, and always under disadvantageous circumstances, being deterred, by past experience, from all attempts at the erection of a structure of their own.

The nature of our population at the Seat of Government, is such as to preclude the possibility of much wealth among the brethren, many being employes of the Government with limited salaries, and nearly all of means scarcely beyond the daily wants of themselves and families.

The hope, therefore, of raising a suitable Masonic edifice at this place, bearing the name of our late illustrious brother of Mount Vernon, without aid from abroad, has long ceased to be indulged. The revival of our Order throughout the land, its prosperity in every section of our country, the gratification and pride every Mason should feel in knowing that in this city a Temple worthy of its position and object has been erected, induce our Grand Lodge to make its present appeal through you to the Craft in your Jurisdiction.

We are willing to tax our means to the uttermost, and feel able to raise, from the little band of the faithful here, some few thousands of dollars, but our main dependence is upon the aid we shall receive from abroad, which we confidently trust will be liberally bestowed, and be such as to enable us to rear here at the Metropolis of the Nation and the gathering point from the remotest parts of the Union, a structure that shall be an honor to the Fraternity, and devoted to the use, not of ourselves alone, but of the thousands of visiting brethren from all parts of our country and of the world.

With sentiments of great respect and fraternal feeling,

I remain yours, etc.

CHAS. S. FRAYLEY, Grand Secretary.

The account current accompanying the foregoing report, shows the receipts and expenditures for the year to have been as therein stated.

On motion of Bro. Cooper, the report was received and ordered to be spread upon the minutes, and the communication from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, was referred to a special committee.

The Chair appointed to compose said committee, Bros. Cooper, Gray, Hall, Dixon, and Nason.

On motion of Bro. Nason, the protest against the proceedings of Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, were referred to the committee appointed to consider the subject of appeals from the decision of the Master of a Lodge.

The other documents presented by the Grand Secretary, were referred to the appropriate standing committees.

The Grand Treasurer's account was then presented, and showed his receipts to have been, including the balance from the preceding year of \$959 80, \$6935 67.* The School fund on hand was \$1728 17.

The accounts were referred to the Standing Committee on Accounts.

Bro. Youngblood offered the following:

* NOTE—It seems to have been the custom of the Grand Secretary to audit and pay the expenses of his office out of his receipts, paying only the balance over to the Grand Treasurer, a practice which always produced a discrepancy between the accounts of these two officers.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, a suspension of a member for non-payment of dues, by a Subordinate Lodge, does not deprive said member of any Masonic rights, other than those mere local rights or privileges which are peculiar to membership in said Lodge.

Resolved further, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, no Subordinate Lodge has a right to expel a member for non-payment of dues; *provided*, however, that any Subordinate may deprive a member of or expel him from membership in such Lodge, for a continued disregard of any provision of its local or internal police.

On motion, the resolutions were laid upon the table.

The Grand Master presented the claim of Past Grand Lecturer, Bro. J. J. Doty, for compensation, which was referred to Bros. M. W. Phillips, Derryberry and Foote.

On motion of Bro. Cooper,

Resolved, That the subject of the rights of Past Masters from other Jurisdictions now living within this Jurisdiction, to seats as members of this Grand Lodge, be referred to the Grand Master, Grand Senior Warden and Grand Secretary.

The memorial of Trinity Lodge, No. 88, was presented, and referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. Barrows,

WHEREAS, The *Star*, a literary and Masonic newspaper, published in the city of Jackson, has tendered the use of its columns to the communications of the Fraternity; therefore,

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge does hereby accept of their kind offer, and recognize said paper, and recommend to Subordinate Lodges to furnish said paper with such communications as may be deemed interesting and instructive to the Craft in this State.

Bro. Nason offered a similar resolution in relation to the Masonic Miscellany which was not adopted.

Bro. Wm. T. Martin made the following report :

The Committee on Complaints and Appeals ask leave to report, that they have carefully examined the record in the matter of the appeal of H. G. Evans, from the decision of Philadelphia Lodge, No. 93, in expelling him upon a charge of altering the will of another after its execution. The appellant assigns as the basis of his appeal :

1st. That the Lodge has no Jurisdiction, he having dimitted from it and became a resident of another Jurisdiction.

2d. That there was a small attendance of members at the trial, and those who voted, were prejudiced against him.

The appellant cannot claim any advantage upon the question of Jurisdiction, as by letter and conduct, he expressly waived this objection, and voluntarily went into trial. As to the second objection to the regularity of the trial, the record does not show the number of members present, nor is there any evidence to show that any prejudice existed. The decision of the Lodge was clearly in accordance with the weight of evidence. The members were acquainted with the witnesses, knew their character and intelligence, and had before them the instrument alleged to have been feloniously altered. Unless, therefore, the record itself presented a case in which the decision was against the weight of testimony, your Committee would not feel authorized to recommend that the decision should be disturbed.

The appeal of James H. Freeman, from Hernando Lodge, No. 51, does not present facts upon which the committee can act. This Grand Lodge cannot, it is conceived, prevent members from voting as they may think proper upon

an application for membership, even though the applicant should be a Master Mason.

From the complaint of Quitman Lodge, No. 18, it appears that in 1838 that Lodge expelled Benjamin Grisham, without observing the accustomed formalities of a trial, or giving him an opportunity to defend himself. That since that time he has acted the part of an honest man and a useful citizen. The Lodge asks the privilege of restoring him to membership.

Your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions :

1. *Resolved*, That the appeal of H. G. Evans, from the action of Philadelphia Lodge, No. 93, be dismissed.

2. *Resolved*, That Quitman Lodge, No. 18, be authorized, in its discretion, to restore to membership in that Lodge, Benjamin Grisham.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WM. T. MARTIN,
J. A. ORR,
JAMES M. HOWRY,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

The Grand Lodge then took up the order of the day, the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, with the following result :

M.: W.:	WILLIAM H. STEVENS.....	Grand Master.
R.: W.:	WILLIAM COTHRAN.....	Grand Senior Warden.
	BARTON EVANS.....	Grand Junior Warden.
	Rev. T. W. CASKEY.....	Grand Chaplain.
	WILLIAM BARKSDALE.....	Grand Orator.
	GEORGE J. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
	WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
	DAVID N. BARROWS.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
	H. L. HILL.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
	E. W. ROOTES.....	Grand Marshal.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, February 4, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M.: W.:	CHARLES SCOTT.....	Grand Master.
	N. D. COLEMAN.....	Deputy Grand Master, <i>p. t.</i>
	ABNER V. ROWE.....	Grand Senior Warden.
	CHARLES S. SPANN.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
	GEORGE J. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
	WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
	WM. T. MARTIN.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
	A. B. BACON.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
	J. O. LUSHER.....	Grand Marshal.
	JAMES A. CHAPMAN.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
	A. H. KENDRICK.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The following additional members appeared :

Leake Lodge, No. 17—Martin M. Friley.

Eureka, No. 61—David Mitchell.

The Grand Lodge continued the election of Grand Officers, as follows :

JAMES WATTS.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
WILLIAM H. LOTT.....	Grand Pursuivant.
ANSEL H. KENDRICK.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Grand Master elect appointed Bro. James M. Howry, Deputy Grand Master.

Bro. Foote offered the following as amendments to the Constitution :

To Section 4, Article I. After the word "ballot" strike out and insert "except the Grand Senior Deacon, the Grand Junior Deacon, Grand Marshal, Grand Sword Bearer and Grand Pursuivant, who shall be appointed annually, by the Grand Master elect, and all shall be duly installed."

To Section 5, Article I. Strike out "Grand Orator."

Upon the vote had thereon, it appeared that the Grand Lodge deemed it expedient thus to amend the Constitution, and the proposed amendments lie over until the next Grand Annual Communication for final action.

Bro. Martin presented the following report of the Committee on Complaints and Appeals:

That they find upon examining the complaint of Marion Lodge, No. 62, against Patton Lodge, U. D., that the complaint is based upon a supposed disregard by the latter Lodge, of objections made by the former, to the initiation of an applicant. The record contains no evidence that Marion Lodge ever notified Patton Lodge of the objections. The committee, therefore, recommend that the complaint be dismissed.

George W. Harlow charges Trinity Lodge, No. 88, with gross disregard of the ancient rules of our Order, in relation to balloting upon applications for membership, and that said Lodge clandestinely initiated several members whose application had been once rejected.

No testimony accompanies the charges, and they are denied by the representatives of the Lodge. The committee recommend that the charges be dismissed, but that the Grand Secretary, if he has not already done so, forward to said Lodge, a copy of the charges preferred, that the Lodge may take such action thereon as may be proper.

Macon Lodge, No. 40, asks leave to restore to membership, John D. Russell, formerly expelled from that Lodge. The brother who preferred the charges upon which the trial proceeded, withdraws them, and asks that the Grand Lodge will grant the permission as prayed for. The committee recommend that Macon Lodge be authorized, at its discretion, to reinstate the expelled member.

John T. Davis appeals from the action of Trinity Lodge, No. 88, in expelling him. The case is presented in an exceedingly informal manner. The charge is one of unmasonic conduct, and is accompanied by no specifications, so that the accused could not, so far as the record shows, have known what charge he was expected to answer. The testimony is loosely taken, and altogether, the trial appears to have been irregularly conducted. Your committee recommend that the case be referred to Trinity Lodge for a new trial, and that until the Lodge shall act upon the case, the party expelled be restored to membership. The facts adduced upon trial seem to have transpired very lately, and there can be no injury done by a new trial.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. T. MARTIN,
J. A. ORR,
JAMES M. HOWRY,
Committee.

The report was, on motion, received and agreed to.

Bro. P. Lee Phillips offered the following :

Resolved, That fifty dollars be, and is hereby appropriated to Wilson Lodge, 72, by the Grand Lodge, to aid said Wilson Lodge to educate orphan children of Master Masons living in the jurisdiction of said Lodge.

On motion, the resolution was laid upon the table.

Bro. Phillips presented the following report :

The committee to whom was referred the petition of Bro. George W. Hively, beg leave to report, that the said petition, together with the petition of brethren living in Brandon, Miss., for a recharter of Coleman Lodge, No. 29, and all other information within reach at this time, have been duly examined.

It appears that Bro. Hively was one of the petitioners for recharter of Coleman Lodge, No. 29, and as said Lodge was rechartered, we deem him to be legally and constitutionally a member of said Lodge.

We would, therefore, recommend the following resolutions, and request their adoption :

Resolved, That Bro. George W. Hively, is legally and constitutionally a member of Coleman Lodge, No. 29.

Resolved, That when a non-affiliated brother be required to pay any dues demanded of him by the Grand Lodge, if the adjacent Lodge, or Lodges refuse or have refused to receive him as a member thereof, upon his making a due application, that he be discharged from all such dues.

Respectfully submitted.

M. W. PHILLIPS,
A. B. BACON,
WM. H. SLAUGHTER,
Committee.

The report was received and agreed to, and the resolutions adopted.

Bro. Rowlett offered the following :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary send to Bro. Thomas J. Harper, of Vicksburg, a check for fifty dollars, in favor of Mrs. Vannatta, widow of our late Bro. G. W. Vannatta.

Bro. Youngblood moved to amend the foregoing resolution, by adding a donation of fifty dollars to Mrs. Jamason, a widow of a Master Mason, but the motion to amend was rejected, and Bro. Rowlett's resolution referred to the Committee on Charity.

Bro. W. M. Phillips presented the following report :

The Committee to whom was referred the memorial and accompanying papers of Bro. J. J. Doty, beg leave respectfully to report : The committee do not find any other reason assigned for a claim upon the funds of this Grand Lodge by Bro. J. J. Doty, than that he had not made the Grand Lecturer's Office in the year 1846, as profitable as he may have desired. Although, some of our officers for that year, may have neglected their duty or not, it would make no reasonable demand, in our humble opinion, upon our treasury. Yet we are constrained to sympathize with our brother, and can but regret that his success in being paid by those for whom he labored, was not more commensurate with his exertions and merits.

We would, therefore, suggest the following for adoption :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge do not deem it prudent to establish such a precedent, as to favor said memorial, and therefore reject the prayer of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

M. W. PHILLIPS,
J. R. DERRYBERRY,
GEO. FOOTE,
Committee.

Bro. Hill offered the following :

Resolved, That the dues of Pikeville Lodge, No. 85, be remitted.

On motion, referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Cooper offered the following :

Resolved, That Willis Lodge, No. 92, be allowed until the next Annual Communication to pay the dues in arrears, to this Grand Lodge.

On motion, referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. Cook offered the following :

Strike out Article 20, General Regulations, and insert, "No Subordinate Lodge shall knowingly initiate, pass or raise, any person residing out of the jurisdiction of such Subordinate Lodge, without the recommendation of the Lodge in whose jurisdiction such person may reside, and any person so initiated, passed and raised, shall be deemed within the jurisdiction of the Lodge nearest to which he resides; and on the petition of any person, to the Lodge nearest his place of residence, praying that he may be initiated in another Lodge, it shall be the duty of the Lodge petitioned, to grant the request, provided the character of the applicant is good.

Bro. Howry offered the following substitute :

Resolved, That so much of a resolution adopted by this Grand Lodge at its last Grand Annual Communication on the subject of Masonic jurisdiction, as declares that "the person shall be deemed within the jurisdiction of that Lodge nearest which he resides," be so amended, that any Lodge may initiate, pass and raise an applicant from any part of the county in which he may reside, provided, he gives notice to the nearest Lodge of his application to another.

On motion of Bro. Youngblood, both the original resolution of Bro. Cook, and Bro. Howry's substitute were laid upon the table.

Bro. Lott offered the following :

Resolved, That the dues of St. Albans Lodge, No. 60, for the year 1850, be remitted.

On motion, referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Lott :

Resolved, That the Committee on Subordinate Lodges report all the resolutions and memorials for remission of dues, or extension of time for their payment, which have been referred to said Committee, and that they, and all others of similar character which may be offered, be referred to a special committee of five.

To constitute said committee, the Chair appointed Bros. Lott, Barrows, Bacon, Terry and Powell.

Bro. Liddell offered the following :

Resolved, That Greensboro Lodge No. 49, have until the first day of May next to pay its dues of the present year.

On motion, referred to last named committee.

Bro. Alvin Myers offered the following :

Resolved, That Westville Lodge, No. 78, have until the 1st May next, to pay dues for 1849.

On motion referred to same Committee.

Bro. Hemphill offered the following :

Resolved, That the dues of all the Lodges be remitted.

On motion, referred to same Committee.

Bro. Bacon presented the petition of Bro. James Black, a member of St Albans Lodge, No. 60, asking permission to affiliate also with Eastern Star Lodge, No. 79.

On motion, laid upon the table.

It was ordered that the Grand Officers elect, be installed this evening at 7 o'clock.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 7 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, February 4, 1851, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

R. W. ABNER V. ROWE.....	G. S. W., as Grand Master.
GEORGE H. GRAY.....	Grand Senior Warden. <i>p. t.</i>
RICHARD COOPER.....	Grand Junior Warden, <i>p. t.</i>
GEORGE J. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
WILLIAM T. MARTIN.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
D. N. BARROWS.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
J. O. LUSHER.....	Grand Marshal.
JAMES A. CHAPMAN.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
A. H. KENDRICK.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Past Grand Officers, Past Masters and members as before.

The Grand Master elect, William H. Stevens, was installed, in due form, by the Past Grand Master, Robert Stewart.

Grand Master Stevens, then installed the other Grand Officers elect.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, 5th February, 1851, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. W. WILLIAM H. STEVENS.....	Grand Master.
R. W. JAMES M. HOWRY.....	Deputy Grand Master.
WILLIAM COTHRAN.....	Grand Senior Warden.
BARTON EVANS.....	Grand Junior Warden.
REV. T. W. CASKEY.....	Grand Chaplain.
WILLIAM BARKSDALE.....	Grand Orator.
GEO. J. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
DAVID N. BARROWS.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
H. L. HILL.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
E. W. ROOTES.....	Grand Marshal.
JAMES WATTS.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
WM. H. LOTT.....	Grand Pursuivant.
A. H. KENDRICK.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

All others the same as on yesterday.

The Grand Secretary presented the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence :

The Committee have examined the very voluminous correspondence for the past year, and have noticed that the proceedings of the Grand Lodges in the United States increase annually in value and interest. The various reports and addresses give evidence that no ordinary minds are employed in promoting the welfare of Freemasonry. The results show that their labor has not been unrewarded. Everywhere Freemasonry is prosperous, and is better understood by the Fraternity, and more highly appreciated by the public. This Committee would have no

light task to perform, if they had to give only a simple synopsis of the proceedings of other Grand Lodges during the year; but their duty is higher and their labor and responsibility greater, and these are greatly increased by the great ability and Masonic knowledge exhibited in the documents before them, and by the necessity of coming sometimes into conflict with those minds in which they were elaborated. To present such a report as would meet the expectation and sustain the scrutiny of our brethren abroad, and be worthy of this intelligent Grand Lodge, is beyond the powers of this Committee. We must content ourselves with briefly stating the facts, and making a few plain remarks in connection therewith, as the occasion may justify.

We will commence with a question which has been raised by the Committee of Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, upon a circumstance which occurred in this Grand Lodge in 1849. We allude to the

INSTALLATION OF THE GRAND MASTER.

The Committee of Michigan notice that our Grand Master, elected in 1849, was installed by the Deputy Grand Master, and say that they have always been taught that only a Grand Master or a Past Grand Master could install a Grand Master, and we are referred by them to the Virginia Text Book.

That Text Book, Dermott, and New York Grand Lodge sustain the Committee of Michigan; but the authorities also say, that the Deputy, in the absence of the Grand Master, may perform his duties generally. We know that it has been always usual to invite a Past Grand Master, when convenient for him to attend, to install a Grand Master elect. We have, heretofore, not deemed this imperative, but that he might be installed by a simple Past Master. It is but an installation of a Master of a Lodge through a Grand Lodge, and we do not perceive the reason why a Past Master may not perform the ceremony, unless, as in the priesthood, as contended by some, there is virtue in a regular succession. If the practice, however, has been uniform in this respect, it is perhaps best not to depart from the custom, though the reason may not be apparent. Our examination has been limited upon this subject, but the records show that Mr. Antony Sayre, however, was in 1717, at the revival of the Grand Lodge of England at London, invested by the oldest Master Mason there present and installed by the Master of the oldest Lodge, and it is not improbable that many other precedents might be found. This is certainly both ancient and respectable authority. We cannot but think that a present or past Master is qualified to discharge the duty of installing a Grand Master, but would be glad to be corrected if in error.

SIDE, OR HONORARY DEGREES.

The Committee of Foreign Correspondence of Rhode Island make quite an eloquent defence of Side Degrees, and conclude with, "we have written on the subject more at length, because the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, and that of Iowa, have, in addition to the authority of the Grand Master of Missouri, spoken disparagingly of such Degrees."

As it regards this committee, our good brethren of Rhode Island err. The chairman of this committee derived so much benefit from one of these degrees twenty years ago, that he has never been able to speak disparagingly of them since. They were mentioned unfavorably, we remember, by one of our Grand Lecturers, some three years since, which is the cause, we presume, of the error. That did not receive the approbation of the Grand Lodge.

MASONIC LIBRARY.

Several of the Grand Lodges have made provision for the collection of Masonic libraries. The expense is a very light one for a Grand Lodge, but per-

haps large enough to make it inconvenient for individuals to devote to a single class of publications. Called upon, as the Grand Officers and Committee are, for opinions and information upon the history of the Fraternity, works of reference are indispensably necessary. The want of them is probably more felt by the Grand Secretary and the Committee on Foreign Correspondence than by the others; and as their labors are intended for the benefit of the whole fraternity in the State, an appropriation for the purpose of forming a library, would not be a waste of money. One hundred dollars for the first year, and thirty dollars annually would accomplish the desired object. The committee simply invite the consideration of the Grand Lodge to the subject.

The Grand Lodges of Maine and Ohio have ordered a republication of all their proceedings, and have resolved to collect, as far as practicable, the Annual Reports of the several Grand Lodges in correspondence with those Grand Lodges since their organization, and have the same neatly bound in suitable volumes, and deposited in the archives of the Grand Lodge.

The Committee of Correspondence of Iowa quote the action of Maine, and say that the Grand Lodge of Iowa "commenced the latter course at its organization, in 1844, and have two neat volumes for each year, of great value as text books of reference and history," etc., and recommend to that Grand Lodge to republish their own proceedings.

We can only say that very few of the Lodges in Mississippi are supplied with the full proceedings of this Grand Lodge. The members of the Grand Lodge are best judges whether wanted or not. A republication would doubtless be made by individual enterprise, if the Grand Lodge would agree to take three or five hundred copies.

DELAWARE.

It appears to have been for several years the general belief that there was no Grand Lodge in the State of Delaware, and much to our surprise, we find among the published proceedings last year of the Grand Lodges of the United States, a copy of the minutes of the "Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, at the Grand Annual Communication, held at the Masonic Hall, at the City of Wilmington, on Thursday, the 27th day of June, A. L. 5850." M. W. Richard Clemens, Grand Master; Geo. W. Clayton, Grand Secretary. Nine Lodges were represented. There appears to have been at least seventeen chartered since the organization of that Grand Lodge. But little business was transacted. The Committee on Foreign Correspondence say that they have examined such matters as were submitted to them, "and find therein nothing to entertain the attention of that Grand Lodge." As that Grand Lodge appears to have passed some years in "Sleepy Hollow," it is possible, when it gets fully awake, it will discover that there has been a revolution in the business of the Grand Lodges of the world, and that their proceedings, generally, are now full of interest; a Washington instead of a George the Third upon their sign boards! It is twenty-one years since we received the last communication from that Grand Lodge.

We welcome our good brethren of Delaware to life, and to a usefulness no longer confined to her own jurisdiction.

CALIFORNIA.

Three Lodges under charter, to-wit: California Lodge, No. 13, chartered by the District of Columbia Grand Lodge; Connecticut Lodge, No. 75, by Connecticut; and Western Star Lodge, No. 98, by the Grand Lodge of Missouri, with some delegates from Lodges under dispensation, met in convention at Sacramento City, in California, on the 17th day of April, 1850, and the aforesaid chartered Lodges formed a Constitution. Our distinguished Bro. Charles Gilman, late Grand Master of Maryland, and General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, was the Chairman of the Conven-

tion. After the adoption of the Constitution, a Lodge was opened, Bro. Gilman presiding as W. M., and an election was held for officers of the Grand Lodge. Bro. Jonathan Stevenson was elected M. W. Grand Master, and John H. Gihon, R. W. Grand Secretary.

Your committee have examined the Constitution above mentioned, and believing it to have been regularly formed, they subjoin, for the consideration of this Grand Lodge, the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we welcome into the Masonic circle the body constituted at Sacramento City, in California, on the 17th day of April, 1850, and calling itself the Grand Lodge of California, and fully recognize it as such, and cordially invite said Grand Lodge to open a correspondence with the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary transmit to the said Grand Lodge of California, a copy of the above resolution.

LOUISIANA.

The Committee have not been placed in possession of any communications from Louisiana since the Louisiana Grand Lodge was merged in the old Grand Lodge, or ceased to exist. A copy of the Constitution of the new body created by the union, or the new Constitution of the old Grand Lodge, whichever it may be considered, has been received, through the politeness of Bro. Thos. H. Lewis. The Constitution appears to be satisfactory to the Ancient York Masons of Louisiana, and there is no latent defect; but as is it not officially communicated, and no desire has been expressed by the present Grand Lodge of Louisiana to be recognized as re-constituted, and being without other evidence of the character of the present Grand Lodge, your committee cannot recommend a recognition of that body at the present time as a regularly formed Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons.

They would respectfully suggest that if any approach should be made by the body calling itself the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, to open a correspondence, that the Grand Master might be authorized to establish friendly and fraternal relations again between Louisiana and Mississippi, upon satisfactory evidence that the former errors of that Grand Lodge had been fully corrected.

No Masonic body rejoiced more sincerely in the prospect of reconciliation among the Masonic fraternity of Louisiana than this Grand Lodge last year, and none would more gladly recognize the body calling itself the Grand Lodge of Louisiana as a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, if such be the character of the new body. The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi has never doubted the right, policy and efficiency of her course. She has reason now to congratulate herself that she was not mistaken in its effects. Heretofore this committee have been prevented from making a suitable defence of this Grand Lodge in the premises, without indelicately invading the jurisdiction of special committees to which the subject was referred. The first failed to make any report, and the last reported only resolutions recognizing the Louisiana Grand Lodge. In justice to herself and to the other Grand Lodges, this defence ought by some one to have been made. Now it is unnecessary labor; the question is settled by the union of the Masons in Louisiana, and we will dismiss the subject with the correction of an error into which the Grand Master of the District of Columbia has fallen. He charges this Grand Lodge with continuing to infringe upon the jurisdiction of Louisiana, by causing St. Joseph's Lodge of Louisiana to make returns to this Grand Lodge, and approving of the proceedings thereof, because they were in accordance with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi. Our worthy brother overlooked the fact that up to that time the Louisiana Grand Lodge had not been recognized by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi; but if he had examined the proceedings of this Grand Lodge a little more thoroughly, he would have seen that what we did was done with the knowledge and full approbation of the Grand Master of the Louisiana Grand

Lodge. We beg, respectfully to refer the Grand Master of the District of Columbia to the Grand Secretary's report to this Grand Lodge, (page 6, Proceedings of 1849), where he will find a full explanation of the subject; and further, that we avoided the error committed by the General Grand Chapter, in claiming the right to grant a charter to Carrollton Chapter in this State, after the Grand Chapter of Mississippi was formed, contrary to the express provisions of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter; for though we approved of the proceedings of St. Joseph's Lodge, which we had a right, and were requested to do, if in accordance with our Constitution, we recommended that Lodge to the Louisiana Grand Lodge for a charter, which was granted upon that recommendation. If we had granted the charter we would have had the above high authority for so doing. While strenuous in defence of her own rights, Mississippi will be the last to invade those of others.

The Committee of Correspondence in New Jersey have been misinformed as to the fact of this Grand Lodge having withdrawn any warrants from the Lodges in Louisiana. They appear not to be well informed in the history of the case. Mississippi had no warrants out in Louisiana last year to withdraw. She has issued none to that State since the formation of the Louisiana Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons.

NEW YORK.

The Committee of Correspondence of New York review the proceedings of this Grand Lodge of last year, giving a brief synopsis of our labors; quote from the address of our Grand Master, Charles A. Lacoste, which they characterize as a very able and interesting address; copy in full the resolutions adopted by this body in relation to the recent difficulties in New York. The committee go on to say, "Having carefully looked over the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, we find, with a single exception, besides the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, nothing to object to, but everything to approve. The work is square, and in such form as to deserve high commendation, and serve as a valuable example to the fraternity. All her decisions at this communication are sound, commendable, prudent and wise, with the exceptions above made. The first is this, Bro. Youngblood offered the following: '*Resolved*, That a recommendation of a Subordinate Lodge, authorizing a candidate to take the degrees in another Lodge out of its jurisdiction, must be passed at a regular meeting and by a unanimous vote.'" "This resolution," the committee of New York say, "contains a radical error, and removes an old landmark or usage of the Society. Numerous decisions of Grand Lodges have been made on the point that a majority vote is sufficient. The old usage of the Fraternity from the earliest times, without memory or record to the contrary, that we ever were aware of, was and is to recommend by a majority. To require it to be by an unanimous vote defeats the end of the provision, viz: To guard against the indulgence of a personal pique or unreasonable objection, depriving the Fraternity of good and worthy men, whom the majority of one Lodge would cheerfully recommend to another Lodge to receive the degrees, while they cannot confer them upon him in their own, owing to a negative ballot, or opposition deemed by them unreasonable or without good cause. If an unanimous vote is required, the individual objecting, although believed by a majority unreasonable, may, by constant attendance and voting, always defeat a recommendation."

The committee of New York approve of the amendments offered by Bro. Hawkins, and hope that this Grand Lodge will reconsider the vote, and that Bro. Youngblood, upon the due reflection, will feel convinced that they are right, and will be the first to move it.

If the "unanimous vote defeats the end of the provision," surely the argument of the New York Committee defeats its own end. That they may have had no such regulation in New York, or any known to the New York Committee, may be true; but still, it is a mere regulation—an additional regulation,

which any Grand Lodge has the right to adopt. The object is to protect a still more ancient one, requiring a unanimous ballot upon the initiation of a candidate for the mysteries of Freemasonry—to break up the modern practice of avoiding this ancient regulation by such recommendations. Why require a unanimous and secret ballot, if a majority may recommend a candidate to a Lodge where he is not known and which receives him on such recommendation? It “defeats the very end” of the secret and unanimous ballot. The Lodge has no right to know the cause of rejection, unless the rejecting brother, of his own accord, chooses to divulge it, whether it be unreasonable or otherwise. If they could require this information, why the secret ballot? There are many reasons why the rejecting brother should not be interrogated. A very important one is, that he may know facts in relation to the candidate sufficient to exclude him, which he dare not divulge. The lawyer against his client, the doctor against his patient, and the priest against his penitent, afford familiar instances; or other parties might be involved, the reputations of whom the rejecting brother would not, for his own life, place in jeopardy, by any revelation which might lead to exposure.

No! This avoiding the unanimous ballot by such recommendations, had become a growing and pernicious evil, and required this new regulation to correct it. The evil was modern, and hence our “well-read and well-informed” brethren of New York had no recollection of seeing an ancient regulation of the kind. These recommendations were the source of much discord. And our experience shows that when one individual has been thus introduced and forced upon the Fraternity, a better man and a better Mason has been driven out. Harmony in the Fraternity is worth more than many members. Let none pass the portals of the temple, directly or indirectly, who cannot receive the unanimous suffrage of the brethren who are his neighbors and who know him best. Perhaps if this rule were adopted by our New York brethren, there might be more harmony within their Jurisdiction. We recommend to them to try the experiment, being quite sure that they will not remove a “landmark” thereby.

“Having found so much to approve,” the New York Committee say, that “they regret much to feel called upon by their duty to differ radically from, and object in toto to the reasoning of our esteemed and highly respectable Bro. Mellen, in the report of the Committee on Correspondence, in reference to the schism in New York, and particularly respecting the right of Past Masters to seats in the [New York] Grand Lodge.”

The Committee then state, that we were mistaken in supposing that the “compact,” so called, was in 1827, or ever declared by that Grand Lodge “a fundamental law, and should never be disturbed;” and charge that these words were inserted, without authority, by the late Grand Secretary, Herring, in reprinting the Book of Constitutions, in 1845. Their own printed Constitution certainly was sufficient authority for us if we quoted and relied upon it; but it will be remembered that we threw aside this compact expressly, in our argument, with the remark that it did not sustain the Phillips party. We stated, in effect, that there might be some facts in the prior history of the Grand Lodge of New York, which might add weight to that compact, but that we were too far removed from that State and too ignorant of the history of that day to know whether any such existed at that day or not. If we had had then before us a document which we have now, we could have shown conclusively, that the late proceeding is only a second edition of the occurrences which led to the establishment of two Grand Lodges in New York, in 1824, which were subsequently united by virtue of that compact, in 1827. It was a quarrel then, as now, between the city and country Lodges. It was an amendment of the Constitution then, as now, depriving Past Masters, except one from each Lodge, of a seat in the Grand Lodge. The country Lodges were for limiting them, the expenditures of the Charity Fund, and were in favor of the mileage and per diem system—the city Lodges against it. The names of several of the old parties even appear in the transactions of to-day, arrayed against each other, as in 1823. The city Lodges seceded then, as now, excepting that they, instead

of usurping the chair, took for excuse, that the Grand Master would not allow an appeal from the decision of the Chair, and adjourned the Grand Lodge without taking a vote or going into an election, which was required by the Constitution to be held on that day, (first Wednesday in June,) and the city members, after entering their protest, repaired forthwith to St. John's Hall, and "reformed the Grand Lodge," as they called it, and elected officers for a Grand Lodge, and then resolved that it was expedient to form two Grand Lodges in that State. Then, claiming to be the true Grand Lodge, as now, sent forth a circular letter, which we have before us, in which they say "The Grand Lodge of the State of New York, having been reduced to the painful necessity of dissolving its connection with certain Lodges, subordinate to its own Jurisdiction, and located beyond the limits of the city of New York, owes to the purity of its motives, etc., to make explanation," etc., and proceed to give what appears to be a calm and truthful history of the difficulties of that day, with the complaints, reports, efforts and propositions for reconciliation, and the Constitution which was amended by the committee in November, 1822, and ordered to be reported to the June Communication in 1823, and by which Constitution Past Masters were deprived of their right of membership.

Under this state of facts, the compact of 1827 must be looked upon as giving powerful support to the claims of the Phillips party, though the express words that "it was to be the fundamental law, and never to be changed," may have been subsequently interlined as charged. They were certainly there in spirit, and the late attempt at an amendment to the Constitution, was a violation of that compact.

It is a controversy which has lasted for thirty-two years; and perhaps, we should go back to 1814, the date of the report of the Grand Officers, De Witt Clinton, Grand Master, upon the subject of the Grand Visitors. And we might as well here, give a succinct history of this controversy, if it be only to show "how great a fire a little spark kindleth." But it will be useful for reference, and aid this Grand Lodge in understanding clearly these difficulties, and by exhibiting the errors of both parties, hasten the union of them upon a firmer basis than that of 1827. That was not firm, because the root of the evil was not reached. Neither party were willing to do the other full justice; but the city party appear to have been the most unreasonable, though the other party do not seem to have been altogether right.

By the Book of Constitutions, adopted March 2, 1785, it was provided that the Quarterly Communications should be held in New York forever. That every member of a constituted Lodge, who should pay twelve-and-a-half cents quarterly to the Charity Fund of the same, except the members of the Lodges in the city of New York, who should pay quarterly twenty-five cents; and that every person initiated should pay one dollar and twenty-five cents to the Charity Fund, except those initiated in Lodges in the city of New York, who should pay each, two dollars and fifty cents.

Here will be discovered the foundation of the whole difficulty. It is singular that an anxious desire to give alms should have so destroyed all other charity between the alms givers; but so it is.

The country Lodges believed it right that the city Lodges should pay double dues, because there were more subjects requiring assistance in the city than elsewhere; but they desired to limit the expenditures of the Charity Fund to \$1000 per year, as nearly all of it was expended in New York, and claimed mileage and per diem for the country Lodges. This claim, the city Lodges opposed, as it would be taking some \$1500 out of the Charity Fund, which they claimed should be kept sacred. The city Lodges opposed the system of Grand Visitation, as the cost of collecting the revenue of the Grand Lodge through the Grand Visitors, was about fifty per cent., and in one instance went to near 75 per cent. The country Lodges desired to keep up the system, as it insured an expenditure of at least a portion of the revenue in the country, in the instruction of the country Lodges; and they contended that it was no loss to the Grand Lodge, as Freemasonry had greatly flourished and extended itself

under the system, and the revenues were increased even by this expenditure. For want of the mileage and per diem, the cost of travelling at that day, when the facilities were not as great as now, were very onerous upon the country Lodges. The country Lodges endeavored to exercise their due influence by means of the proxy system. This, the city Lodges opposed.

In June, 1821, the country Lodges were fully represented. The subject of Grand Visitors was dropped, but the country Lodges voted themselves mileage and per diem, not only then, but for the future, and authorized a Delegate to represent five Lodges and five Past Masters, whereby a single individual might give twenty votes. One object the city Lodges thought was in contemplation by the country Lodges, was to move the Grand Lodge to Albany, and this was advocated. But the Committee appointed to report amendments to the Constitution reported one dismissing all Past Masters (excepting one from each Lodge) of a seat in the Grand Lodge; compensating Delegates of Lodges and non-resident Grand Officers for their attendance—allowed one proxy to represent five Lodges—limited the Stewards of Charity to \$1000 per annum expenditure, etc.

The quarterly meeting in March following, undertook to defeat the effect of the proxy system, by giving a form of appointment, making it necessary for the proxy to receive his appointment in open Lodge,* and upon motion, made at the June Communication, that a Committee should be appointed to examine the credentials and to admit none not thus appointed, the question of order arose upon which the appeal was taken, from the Grand Master's decision above mentioned, and the Grand Master adjourned the Grand Lodge, and the city Lodges "reformed" the Grand Lodge at St. John's Hall, and elected officers.

The old and new difficulties, it will be seen, are precisely parallel, and when we consider the amendments to the Constitution reported by the committee, by one of which, the Past Masters were excluded from membership, and to prevent the adoption of these amendments, the city Lodges seceded and formed a new Grand Lodge, and that the compact of 1827, contained the following: "That the number of Lodges which one Master or Past Master might represent should not exceed three; but Past Masters should not be represented by proxy; and that representatives shall be paid as they had heretofore been paid," the conclusion is inevitable, that the membership of Past Masters was a part of the compact, and the country Lodges receiving mileage and per diem was the consideration.

The Committee of New York notice our remark that the opinion of Chancellor Walworth, was of less value, as it was not the opinion of the Chancellor, in other words, a judicial decision, but that of a lawyer and counsellor of one of the parties, and as such, he might be presumed to be biased. The Committee of New York say that Grand Master Willard, sent him the documents and asked his opinion, and the Phillips party having claimed the learned Chancellor as being upon their side, and that if the Grand Lodge paid him a fee subsequently, it was from a sense of duty.

Why the Phillips party should have ever thought Chancellor Walworth's opinion would be on their side, we cannot imagine; as, in the difficulties of 1823, he belonged to the country party and signed a circular letter, bearing date, Feb. 5, 1821, with thirty-five others, including Bros. Joseph Enos, Jr., Ebenezer Wadsworth, and Salem Town, who figure at this day in the present difficulties, on the same side, addressed to the Subordinate Lodges, to take such measures as would insure a full attendance of the country Lodges, that the Grand Lodge might be removed from the city of New York.

Judges, as well as others frequently err, even in their legal opinions, after a full and fair hearing of both sides, and when no circumstances interfere with their impartiality; and though we entertain a profound respect for Chancellor

* In the late affair, the Quarterly Meeting in March, declared the late amendments unconstitutional, a singular coincidence.

Walworth's integrity and ability, and have no doubt, that his opinion, as published, is a perfectly honest one, his opinion, nor that of any other person, under the circumstances is entitled to more weight than that which the naked reasoning may give. It is from necessity, without regard to the fact, whether he wrought for a stipulated fee, or was remunerated for labors afterwards by the generosity of the Grand Lodge, a biased opinion. It is hardly necessary to remark that lawyers expect to be paid for their opinions, though no special mention is made of a fee, and he is liable, unwittingly, to lean to the side of his client.

"Passing from this," continue the New York Committee, "the writer of the the report, [alluding to our report.] argues at length the Past Masters' right to permanent membership, and votes in the Grand Lodge favorably to that right, and in our judgment, falls into numerous errors of fact and fallacies and inconsistencies of reasoning and argument, which we cannot, for want of space, follow him ; but which are, as we conceive, all easily capable of correction and and refutation by every well read and well informed Mason."

Such an argument is unanswerable !

We certainly had no reason to anticipate that our effort last year, would receive the immediate approbation of our brethren in New York ; or, at least, we did not expect that if it produced conviction to their minds, that they could divest themselves of "the "minerals and metals" of their self-esteem sufficiently to confess their error upon its first reading ; but really, to be annihilated thus by a single stroke of the pen, modest though we be, was not within our calculations.

We sincerely regret, as our only object is truth, and the welfare of the fraternity, that our distinguished brethren had not taken the little trouble which it appears it would have cost them, to have corrected at least some of the numerous errors of fact, and made manifest the fallacies and inconsistencies of our reasoning and argument. And truly, we are astonished that they did not prefer to expend their time in this good work, instead of occupying so much of it and their valuable space as three or four closely printed pages, equal to double the number of ours, in re-arguing the question of inherent right of Past Masters to seats in the Grand Lodge. Our proposition, it will be remembered, was simply "that if the Masters and Wardens had an inherent right, that Past Masters had." It was so evident at the conclusion of our argument, if our labors may be honored by this designation, that neither had, that we did not think it worth the announcement. The Masters and Wardens had the right by grant or gift in the early part of the last century, and a little later in the same century, at most fifty years, the Past Masters had the same right by grant or gift also. The difference in time is too slight in the history of a fraternity of thirty centuries existence, to make any difference in the rights of the parties, nor does it matter whether A gave the right to B, and B to C, or that A gave it directly to C. If we have a clear apprehension of the definition of the word "inherent," neither Past Masters, present Masters, nor Wardens can lay claim to it.

The Committee of the Grand Lodge of Ohio, who have had time to consider well and coolly this question, in their last able report, agree with this Grand Lodge in the opinion that the Willard party, in excluding the Past Masters, were guilty of a revolutionary act, and that the Phillips party could not legally form a Grand Lodge in the manner in which it was attempted, and, as a consequence, the Grand Lodge of Ohio refused to recognize the existence of any legitimate Grand Lodge in New York. This, certainly would have been the conclusion to which your Committee would have come last year, if we had evidence before us, that a Past Master had attempted to exercise his rights in the Willard Grand Lodge, and had been prevented by that body. But as that Grand Lodge, which we then recognized, has since given sufficient evidence that Past Masters are in truth excluded, it is respectfully submitted to your Most Worthy body, whether it is not now time, and whether it would not be more consistent to withdraw our recognition of the Willard Grand Lodge.

The Committee of Foreign Correspondence of Ohio, refer approvingly to our report of last year, except so much of it as recommended the recognition of the Willard Grand Lodge. But the special committee, to which was referred the subject of the difficulties in the Grand Lodge of New York, treat the subject at length, and with signal ability, and arrive at the same conclusion as the other Committee. We quote the conclusions of the Special Committee:

"Your Committee do not feel called on to enter into the question of the rights of Past Masters in Grand Lodges; indeed, a discussion of the general question could have no relevancy in this controversy, for the question in the case before us, turns entirely on the organization of the Grand Lodge of New York. It does appear to your Committee, however, that those opposed to Past Masters have erred in two particulars:

1. In disturbing the compact of 1827, in which the rights of Past Masters were clearly recognized, if not distinctly asserted, and which was declared a fundamental law of the Grand Lodge, which was never to be disturbed.

2. In forcing the amendment on the Grand Lodge without submitting it to vote at the Annual June Communication. The Constitution provided that all amendments should be passed by two successive June Communications; unless, in addition to the affirmative vote of the Grand Lodge at the June Communication, it shall have received the affirmative vote of a majority of Lodges in the jurisdiction. The words 'shall have received,' clearly indicate that the action of the Lodges must be prior to that of the June Communication, and not after, as was the case in the instance before us. Any other construction of the language is impossible, and any other view opposed to the plainest principles of common sense and justice. Your Committee believe, therefore, that Grand Master Willard, and his associates, seriously erred in their over zealous efforts to disfranchise the Past Masters. On the other hand, it cannot be doubted that the W. Isaac Phillips and his party, were wrong in resisting the will of Grand Master while occupying his place, and clothed in the insignia of his office. It was their duty to have submitted to his will, for the time being, and if, as they believed, his conduct was characterized by great abuses of power, some other and more appropriate manner and time, should have been chosen to assert their rights.

In conclusion, your Committee feel some hesitation as to the duty of this Grand Lodge in relation to the difficulties among our New York brethren. The two bodies have sent out communications, each claiming to be the legitimate Grand Lodge. The M. W. Isaac Phillips and his Lodge, claim that the proceedings of the opposite party were unconstitutional and revolutionary; and the W. John D. Willard and his Lodge, charge the other party with riotous and revolutionary conduct. Now, can this Grand Lodge, in view of all the facts, recognize one party as the legitimate Grand Lodge, thereby cutting off all fraternal intercourse with the other? There are various considerations which would cause us to hesitate. One party resisted the authority of the Grand Master, and formed a new Lodge, claiming to be the legitimate Lodge. In all this, we perceive so much irregularity, that some doubt exists as to the propriety at this time, of acknowledging the legitimacy of either Lodge.

The Masonic Fraternity constitutes a world-wide brotherhood, and no trivial event should be permitted to interrupt the relationship between either individuals or Lodges. That differences of opinion must necessarily grow out of business transactions, and the management of Lodges, might readily be anticipated; but the exercise of proper forbearance, and a recognition of those principles of brotherly love and charity which constitute the foundation of our Order, should be sufficient to arrest violent passions, and lead to amicable adjustments.

Your Committee believe that the transactions of our New York brethren, are in direct antagonism to the spirit of Masonry; that in their zeal to maintain party organizations, they have lost sight of the glorious principles of our Order, and have descended to the elements of another grade of society to accomplish their various purposes. But the broad and bright faith of brotherly love and charity admonish to forgiveness; and now, in the name of an entire fraternity,

in the name of every principle held sacred by Masons, we call on our brethren of New York, to stay the hand of violence and disorder. We call upon them to retrace their steps, and to greet each other as brothers, and live in harmony according to the intention of our association.

Your Committee believe that the questions which have divided our brethren, admit of a ready and easy adjustment, and that a spirit of mutual concession and charitable forgiveness, would establish union and harmony where now violence and discord prevail. We would, therefore, earnestly and affectionately advise and urge them, by every principle held sacred by Masons, to adopt measures to reconcile their controversies, and thereby, showing to the world that Masonry is what it professes to be, a system of Brotherly Love and Charity.

We have high authority for admiring the office of peace-maker; and if this Grand Lodge can, by proper means, contribute to heal the wounds now so fresh and bleeding in our fraternity, her name shall ever be hailed with honor and gratitude. With this spirit, and influenced by this motive, your Committee, in all humility, but with full confidence in the broad mantle of Charity, submit the following resolutions for the consideration of this Grand Lodge :

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of the State of Ohio, has heard with feelings of most profound regret, of the difficulties which exist in the Grand Lodge of New York.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Grand Lodge, the questions which have agitated the Grand Lodge of New York, admit of being adjusted in a manner honorable, and to the interest of both parties.

Resolved, That we most respectfully but earnestly urge our brethren of New York, to take the necessary steps for the immediate adjustment of this unfortunate misunderstanding.

• *Resolved*, That if the mediatorial aid of this Grand Lodge can be of any assistance in compromising the difficulty now existing in the Grand Lodge of New York, it is hereby frankly and in good faith tendered to them.

Resolved, That until the existing difficulties in the Grand Lodge of New York be amicably adjusted, or some new feature developed, this Grand Lodge cannot recognize either one of the present organizations."

And the Grand Secretary was ordered to forward a copy of the resolutions to both Bodies.

The doctrine contained in these two pages appeared to us so good, and written in such a true Masonic spirit, that we preferred not to mutilate it, and to respectfully and fraternally urge its consideration upon our brethren of New York.

Your Committee, to carry out their recommendations in case their views meet with the approbation of the Grand Lodge, present the following resolution for adoption :

Resolved, That the resolution adopted last year, recognizing the Willard Grand Lodge of New York, be and the same is hereby rescinded.

Your Committee believe that the adoption of this resolution will by no means retard the settlement of the difficulty, but on the contrary, if it has any influence, it will tend to re-establish harmony among our brethren of New York.

We are happy to find that a serious, though unsuccessful effort, has been made to unite the Willard and Phillips Grand Lodges, and that committees were appointed by both parties, who met, and propositions were made by members of both committees. One of the Phillips' Grand Lodge proposed the division of the State, giving to the Lodges already erected, the permission to choose which Jurisdiction they would come under. This, it was remarked by one of the other committee, would have been acceptable a year ago, but not then. One of the Willard Grand Lodge then proposed that an amendment of the Constitution should be made, by which, that upon the call of the roll of Lodges, the Past Masters, collectively, of each Lodge, should have one vote.

This was also rejected. It was then proposed by another of the Phillips Grand Lodge, that each Grand Lodge should act independently until June, 1851—that the Willard Grand Lodge should rescind the amendment excluding Past Masters, and all then to be convened to elect officers for the Grand Lodge of the State of New York. This was likewise rejected, and the committees separated; but we do not, by any means, despair of seeing the good work accomplished during the year.

We are pleased with the tone of the reports this year in New York, and are glad to perceive that a committee reported, and that the Grand Lodge adopted the following resolution, though we should have been better pleased, if it had contained a command instead of a recommendation:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge earnestly recommend to its several Subordinate Lodges, that in no case they should initiate a candidate who is a resident of another State, without the consent of the Grand Lodge of the State, or of the Lodge or brethren in the immediate vicinity of the candidate.

It is a subject of congratulation that a union has been produced between the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of New York, and the St. John's Grand Lodge, of the prospect of which we made mention last year. This union was celebrated in New York, on the 27th of December last, and invitations were extended to the Grand and Subordinate Lodges of the United States and Canada, to unite in the celebration. And a special invitation to the first six officers of the Grand Lodge, to dinner on that day.

This union is a matter over which to rejoice. The division has existed fourteen or fifteen years. It only requires now one or two simple acts of justice, mutually to be done by the country and city Lodges in that State, to heal all divisions among them.

The following propositions were made by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of New York:

1. Recognition of Lodges Subordinate to St. John's Lodge as regular Masonic Bodies.
2. That their members are lawful Masons.
3. That they (the Lodges) be put on the registry of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.
4. That each and every of such Lodges, may at any time, with their own consent, come under the Jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.
5. That if St. John's Grand Lodge shall, on or before the next June Communion, by a vote of their Body, decide to give up their organization as a Grand Lodge, and proffer themselves to the Grand Lodge of New York—their Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers shall be received and admitted as Past Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York.

These were accepted by the St. John's Grand Lodge, and it would have been strange if they had not, for it was a surrender by the old Grand Lodge in every point. If she had confined her first act to a simple reprimand, which, under the circumstances, was all that the offending brethren and Lodges deserved, she would not thus have received back those she had once expelled, into full fellowship, without any punishment whatever.

We rejoice, however, upon the happy settlement of this difficulty, and trust that the lesson will not be lost upon our brethren in New York in relation to the more recent division.

We notice a singular change of fortune in that State. The Phillips party, when in control of the Grand Lodge of New York, expelled the brethren who formed the St. John's Grand Lodge, and just before the union of the St. John's Grand Lodge with the Willard Grand Lodge, the former, with admirable gravity, passed a resolution refusing to recognize the Phillips Grand Lodge other than a clandestine body.

The Committee feel called upon in this place, to express an opinion, which they hope will be concurred in by the Grand Lodge, for the consideration of the

Subordinate Lodges under her Jurisdiction. It appears to this committee that there is too strong a disposition everywhere, to inflict the highest punishment for every violation of discipline, as well as for every moral delinquency. There are certainly some crimes, political and Masonic, for which no atonement can be made, and no repentance can safely restore the offender to fellowship, which will authorize expulsion—and that without delay; but we think that the punishment of expulsion generally, should be used only in cases of the commission of the higher Masonic crimes. An expulsion should, we think, never be resorted to when there is a possibility of a reformation or restoration. In such cases a definite or indefinite suspension is far preferable. In the lower grades, a reprimand is quite sufficient. Good surgeons seldom use the knife, and only in cases where the disease is dangerous and there is no other mode of eradicating it. The moral power of the punishment is lost if inflicted for minor offences, as well as all distinction between a simple disobedience to the arbitrary and unjust commands of an officer or some other minor offence against mere discipline, and the open, willful and continued violations of the highest moral and Masonic obligations. This cutting off of heads upon every slight occasion, exhibits an unforgiving and uncharitable disposition; and, as we are all liable to err, from the frailties of our nature and obliquity of our judgments, we may each of us be subjected, sooner or later, to this punishment, if used thus for every offence, and it behooves us all to correct the evil practice.

VIRGINIA.

The Grand Lodge of Virginia has transmitted to this Grand Lodge, two very handsome pamphlets, containing a full description of the ceremony of laying the corner stone of the Washington monument in the city of Richmond, on the 21st day of February, A. L. 5850. The pamphlet also contains a beautiful engraving of the intended superb monument which is to be erected by the State of Virginia; the addresses on the occasion, and an enumeration of the articles deposited under the corner stone. The orator of the day, Robert G. Scott, in his address, gave a sketch of Washington's Masonic life, and collected and embodied his Masonic letters and answers to Masonic addresses. The whole making a very handsome and welcome addition to the archives of this Grand Lodge; for which our brethren of Virginia doubtless have the warm thanks of this Grand Lodge.

OHIO.

The Grand Lodge of Ohio has adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is improper for an individual Mason to examine a travelling brother for the purpose of vouching for him, so as to admit him into a Lodge, without being appointed by the Worshipful Master, or presiding officer for that purpose; nor shall any such voucher be taken so as to admit a visiting brother founded on such examination; nor to the avouchment of any brother, unless he has previously been in a Lodge with such brother proposing to visit.

An excellent resolution.

The printed proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Ohio contain an engraving of a stone prepared under the directions of that Grand Lodge for the Washington monument.

Several other Grand Lodges have already presented stones or have resolved to do so.

IOWA.

The Grand Lodge of Iowa has adopted a resolution relative to dimitted brethren, which permits a brother to dimitt from a Subordinate Lodge; but if he does not join some other Lodge "he shall not be entitled to any essential benefits of Masonry, such as the burial service, uniting in Masonic celebrations,

the laying of corner stones of public edifices, visiting Lodges, etc., etc.;" nor shall they or their families be entitled to any pecuniary aid from the Lodges, or from individual brethren in case of misfortune and distress.

GRAND LODGE OF TEXAS.

The Grand Lodge of Texas has adopted the following resolution :

Resolved, That a member of a Lodge subordinate to this Grand Lodge, and resident within its jurisdiction, expelled by a Lodge not subordinate to this Grand Lodge, is still entitled to all the rights and privileges of Masonry within this State until the action of said Grand Lodge is legally communicated to and approved by this Grand Lodge.

The argument of the committee which reported the resolution is very neat, and contains perfectly sound doctrine, and so does the first resolution reported, but the above contains, we think, an error. It appears to us that it is not necessary that the fact of the expulsion should be communicated necessarily to the Grand Lodge first. The only question for the Subordinate Lodge to decide is, have they authentic information that the brother was expelled by competent authority? To allow a person known to have been expelled by such authority to visit or retain his membership in the Lodge, merely because the fact had not been communicated to the Grand Lodge of the State in which he then resides, and approved by that Grand Lodge, would appear to be highly inexpedient as well as new law. We think that the question of approval must be decided by the Grand Lodge within whose jurisdiction the Subordinate Lodge was that expelled him, and not the one to whose jurisdiction he had removed, whether the expulsion was before or after his removal, provided the expelling Subordinate Lodge had jurisdiction over the individual.

If space and your patience permitted, your Committee might thus fill a large volume, in reviewing the proceedings of the other Grand Lodges of the United States; for there is not a publication before them which is not entitled to special notice, and from which they might not make extracts of great value to the Craft. The rubbish is fast being removed, and not a laborer in the good work but brings us a jewel, or a long lost treasure. When we examine these communications, we cannot but be struck with the immense amount of good which Freemasonry is silently doing in the world. We do not speak of alms-giving, for of this we cannot boast; and good as this may be, it is not the principal object of the institution. Freemasonry has a higher and a holier mission. No one can estimate the effects upon society at large, as well as upon the brotherhood, which are produced by her discipline and the diffusion of her principles. Her influence is felt at almost every fireside, while she is content to be unobserved in her own mysterious shades, seeking not, nay, desiring not the world's approbation. It is sufficient that she has done a good work. Restraining the passions and inculcating brotherly love, and a love of science, she has done wonders towards ameliorating the condition of mankind, wherever she has erected her Lodges, and we feel the truth contained in the oft quoted old manuscript sent by Mr. Locke to the Earl of Pembroke: "Some Maconnes are nott so vertuous as some other menne; but yn the mooste parte they be more gude then they woulde be yf they war not Maconnes."

Respectfully submitted,

WM. P. MELLEEN, Grand Secretary,
Ex-officio Chairman of Committee.

On motion of Bro. Cooper, the report was received.

Bro. Bacon offered the following :

Resolved, That so much of the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, as relates to the difficulties in New York, be not agreed to, and that this Grand Lodge will recognize alone, the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, of which John D. Willard, was last year, Grand Master.

On motion, Bro. Bacon's resolution was laid on the table.

On motion of Bro. Howry, the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was made the special order for 4 o'clock, P. M.

Bro. Lott presented the following report :

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the petitions of Pikeville Lodge, No. 85, St. Albans Lodge, No. 60, Holmesville Lodge, No. 69, for remission of dues; of Greensboro Lodge, No. 49 and Willis Lodge, No. 92, for extension of time for payment of dues; also, to remit the dues of all the constituent Lodges, beg leave to report : That they deem it an unwise precedent to remit the dues of any Lodge, but recommend that the several Lodges named, in case they have not already paid the same, have until the first of May, to pay their dues.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. H. LOTT,
A. B. BACON,
W. T. TERRY,
GEO. M. POWELL,
D. N. BARROWS,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Dixon, presented the following report of Committee on Accounts :

The Committee on Accounts beg leave to report : That they have had under consideration, the various matters of account embraced in the Annual Reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and find the same correct, and properly kept and reported and fully sustained by the proper vouchers.

In regard to the reported losses through the mails in 1849, of the sums remitted by Tchula and Fulton Lodges, your Committee find that the remittances are proved by the proper vouchers, and they therefore recommend the following resolution in reference thereto :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary credit Tchula Lodges, No. —, and Fulton Lodge, —, with the sums remitted, and charge the same on his annual account to the Grand Lodge.

The account of Bro. A. D. Evans, for the sum of five dollars for summoning, tyling and for furnishing lights for this Grand Lodge, called on 13th June, 1850,* upon the occasion of the presentation of the Jewel presented to Bro. D. S. Jennings, by request of the Louisiana Grand Lodge, is found correct, and they recommend the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary draw his order on the Grand Treasurer for five dollars, in favor of Bro. A. D. Evans, tyling, etc., for this Grand Lodge on the 13th June, 1850.

Your Committee find many Lodges largely in arrears, and they would, in the discharge of their duty, respectfully call the attention of this Grand Lodge to Section 5, Article 3, of the Constitution of this Body.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

L. V. DIXON,
J. A. HANSON,
GEORGE FOOTE,
Committee.

On motion the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Burke present the following report :

The Committee to whom was referred the resolution on the subject of the jewels of Coleman Lodge, No. 29, beg leave to report that, they have examined written and oral testimony in relation thereto, as follows :

In the year 1838, Wm. B. Word was entrusted by Coleman Lodge, No. 29, with the sum of forty dollars for the purchase of Lodge jewels in the city of New York. Whilst in that city, he obtained forty dollars from Bro. S. C. Farrar, for the same purpose, which money was refunded to Bro. Farrar, on his

*NOTE—The Committee find no record of this meeting of the Grand Lodge.

return from the North by the Lodge. Thus it appears that the sum of eighty dollars has already been paid by Coleman Lodge, No. 29, for Lodge jewels.

It now appears, that in addition to the expenditure above alluded to, Mr. R. R. Boyd has advanced a claim against Coleman Lodge, No. 29, for forty dollars, which he alleges was loaned to said Word by him, for the purchase of Lodge jewels.

There being no proof adduced before the Committee that said Word was authorized to borrow money on the faith of the Lodge, but, on the contrary, satisfactory evidence being in the possession of the Committee, that the Lodge was fully able to pay for her jewels, and had done so in advance, the Committee are of the opinion that the claim of said Boyd is not valid, and that Coleman Lodge, No. 29, is exempt from all liability on account of said jewels.

JNO. B. BURKE, Chm'n,
SAM'L A. D. STEELE,
GEO. H. GRAY, Sr.
Committee.

On motion the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Bacon presented the following report :

The Committee to whom were referred the resolution of Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, and Hill City Lodge, No. 121, in the city of Vicksburg, tendering the use of a suitable Hall and necessary furniture to this Grand Lodge forever, should this Grand Lodge deem it to the interest of the fraternity to change its place of meeting; also, the proposition of D. N. Barrows, Master of Silas Brown, No. 65, L. V. Dixon, S. W., of Pearl Lodge, No. 23, and Charles Scott, H. P., Jackson Royal Arch Chapter, tendering the use of the Masonic Hall in the city of Jackson to this Grand Lodge, on the condition that the meetings of this Grand Lodge be held therein, have had the same under consideration, and beg leave to report as follows :

Your Committee are, from the tendency of Masonic principles, opposed to changes of all kinds, unless absolutely necessary. This Grand Lodge has continued its sittings in the city of Natchez from feeble infancy, to the most mature and robust manhood. In this city, and in this Hall, still meet Harmony Lodge, No. 1, and Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2, the only existing Lodges which were present at its formation.* These venerable parents of Mississippi Masonry, contain four out of six living Past Grand Masters. Near this Masonic Hall rest the remains of Henry Tooley, our first Grand Master, whose virtues have embalmed his memory in all our breasts. Your Committee could not recommend the leaving of this Mecca of Masonry for any other point within this jurisdiction, unless stringent necessity should compel it. Such necessity your Committee do not believe to exist. The present large assemblage of representatives from the several Subordinate Lodges, is itself sufficient evidence to the contrary.

Besides this, there are numerous objections to the removal to the places indicated. The likelihood that representatives will have other business unconnected with their duties in the Grand Lodge, is of itself a serious objection, although urged as a reason for such removal. Those representatives would by their absence from our meetings, prolong our sittings unnecessarily, and fail to exercise that influence, and take that interest in our proceedings which in our present retired and quiet sanctuary they now do.

Your Committee, for these and other reasons not necessary now to suggest, beg leave to recommend that the propositions from Vicksburg and Jackson be fraternally declined.

Respectfully,
A. B. BACON,
H. M. YOUNGBLOOD,
WM. T. MARTIN,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and laid upon the table.

* This is an error, Washington Lodge, No. 3, at Port Gibson, was represented in the Convention which formed the Grand Lodge.

Bro. Barksdale offered to following as an amendment to the Constitution :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge deems it expedient to amend the Constitution in the following manner: Strike out the "city of Natchez," in the first clause in the eighth article of the Constitution, and insert in lieu thereof, the "city of Jackson," or at such other place as the Grand Lodge at its Annual Communication may deem proper.

The question being upon the adoption of the resolution, it appeared that there were 201 votes in the affirmative and 57 in the negative. The proposed amendment therefore lies over until the next Grand Annual Communication for final action.

Bro. Martin moved to reconsider the vote to amend the Constitution, but the Grand Lodge refused to reconsider.

Bro. Cooper presented the following report :

The undersigned committee, to whom was referred the communication from the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, respectfully report :

They have had the subject under consideration, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution, to-wit :

Resolved, That the Subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction, who may assemble on the 4th day of November, 1852, to celebrate the centennial anniversary of Gen. Washington's initiation into our ancient Fraternity, be and they are hereby requested to open a subscription at that time, that every member may have an opportunity to subscribe to the building of the Masonic Hall in Washington City.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD COOPER, Chm'n,
L. V. DIXON,
REUBEN NASON,
GEO. H. GRAY, SR.,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Bacon presented the following report :

The committee appointed to take into consideration the volume entitled the "Masonic Chart," presented to the Grand Lodge by the author, Bro. Jeremy L. Cross, have examined the same, and find it to be an elegant copy of that brother's well known Text-book on Masonry, with the name of this Grand Lodge on the cover of the same, and recommend the following resolution for adoption :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary communicate the thanks of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi to Jeremy L. Cross for the elegant and tasteful copy of his Masonic Chart presented to this Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

AZEL BACUS BACON, Chm'n.
THOMAS J. HAWKINS,
GEO. H. GRAY, SR.,
Committee.

Bro. Hampton presented the following report :

The undersigned Special Committee, to whom was referred the examination of the "Mystic Circle," by Bro. Gray, beg leave to report, that they have examined said work and consider it one of the most valuable Text Books now in use, more especially in respect to questions of Masonic law and usage.

Your Committee therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolutions, to-wit :

Resolved, That the "Mystic Circle," by Bro. George H. Gray, Sr., be recommended by this Grand Lodge to the brethren in the State of Mississippi, as a correct and valuable Text-Book of Masonic law and usage.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge be tendered Bro. Gray for the copy of the "Mystic Circle" presented by him.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM H. HAMPTON,
GEORGE FOOTE,
Committee.

On motion the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Speight, from the Committee on Subordinate Lodges, made a report, which was received and recommitted.

Bro. Cooper presented the following report :

The undersigned Committee, appointed under and by virtue of a resolution to take into consideration the propriety of dividing the State of Mississippi into a suitable number of Masonic districts, and, if deemed expedient, to report a plan for such division, respectfully report, that they have given the subject careful consideration, and, after deliberating upon the various plans suggested, and the diversity of opinion among the members of this Grand Lodge, in regard to the details of the scheme, being satisfied that it is expedient to divide the State into a suitable number of Masonic districts, that they have agreed upon and recommended for the adoption of the Grand Lodge, the following resolutions, to-wit :

Resolved, That the State of Mississippi be, and the same is hereby divided into seven Masonic Districts, as follows, to-wit :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1; Andrew Jackson, No. 2; Washington, No. 3; Quitman No. 18; Gallatin, No. 25; Olive Branch, No. 34; Liberty, No. 37; Grand Gulf, No. 40; Shady Grove, No. 43; Benjamin Franklin, No. 46; Mississippi, No. 56; Thomas Hinds, No. 58; Asylum, No. 63; Holmesville, No. 69; Eastern Star, No. 79; and Claiborne, No. 110, shall compose the First District.

Clinton Lodge, No. 16; Leake, No. 17; Raymond, No. 21; Pearl, No. 22; Vicksburg, No. 26; Coleman, No. 29; Tappan, No. 59; Silas Brown, No. 65; Madison, No. 73; United Friends, No. 91; Utica, No. 98; Bovina, No. 112; Hyland, No. 113; Unity, No. 117; Hill City, No. 121; and Oak Ridge, No. 123; shall compose the Second District.

Lexington Lodge, No. 24; Canton, No. 28; Grenada, No. 31; Carrollton, No. 36; Pythagorean, No. 48; Eureka, No. 61; Camden, No. 74; De Witt Clinton, No. 84; Mount Moriah, No. 86; Emory, No. 95; Tchula, No. 122; Thomas-town, No. 124; Sharon, No. 103; and Yazoo, No. 42, shall compose the Third District.

Oxford, Lodge, No. 33; Holly Springs, No. 35; Hernando, No. 51; Chulahoma, No. 55; Panola, No. 66; Ebenezer, No. 76; Oakland, No. 82; Coffeeville, No. 83; Belmont, No. 90; Mount Pleasant, No. 99; De Soto, No. 100; Coahoma, No. 104; and Byhalia, No. 115, shall compose the Fourth District.

Aberdeen Lodge, No. 82; Salem, No. 45; Ripley, No. 47; Houston, No. 67; Joseph Warren, No. 71; Pontotoc, No. 81; Pikeville, No. 85; Prairie, No. 87; Eastport, No. 94; Richmond, No. 97; Malone, No. 101; Carrollville, No. 108; Danville, No. 109; Farmington, No. 116, and Camargo, No. 118, shall compose the Fifth District.

Columbus Lodge, No. 5; Macon, No. 40; Greensboro, No. 49; Marion, No. 62; DeKalb, No. 64; Louisville, No. 75; Evergreen, No. 77; Trinity, No. 88; Abert, No. 89; Philadelphia, No. 93; Pearl River, No. 105; Bethel, No. 107; Lowndes, No. 114; Snowsville, 119, shall compose the Sixth District.

Monroe Lodge, No. 39; Lafayette, No. 53; Sterling, No. 54; Harrison, No. 57; St. Albans, No. 60; Vannatta, No. 68; Evening Star, No. 70; Wilson, No. 72; Westville, No. 78; Scott, No. 80; Willis, No. 92; Wayne, No. 102; Union, No. 106; Moses Cook, 111; Magnolia, No. 120, shall compose the Seventh District.

And all other Lodges, which have been, or may hereafter be established in

this State, shall be attached respectively to that District to which may belong the nearest Lodge in the above enumeration.

2. That it shall be and is hereby made the duty of the Grand Master annually, within thirty days after his election, to appoint one District Deputy Grand Master within and for each Masonic District, who, after being notified of their appointment, shall attend the Grand Master at such place as he may designate, and remain with him until he is satisfied of their qualifications to impart Masonic instruction; and when the Grand Master shall be satisfied of the qualifications of any or all of his said Deputies, he shall give him or them a warrant under his hand and seal, authorizing him or them to enter upon the discharge of the duties of their respective offices.

3. That it shall be, and is hereby made the duty of the District Deputy Grand Master, when duly appointed and commissioned as aforesaid, to visit the several Lodges in their Districts, respectively, and instruct the brethren in the work and lectures in conformity with the teachings of the Grand Master; to collect such statistical information as, in their judgment, may be of interest to the Grand Lodge, and to make a full report to the Grand Lodge at the next Annual Communication, of the situation of the Lodges visited by them.

4. That the District Deputy Grand Masters shall not be officers of the Grand Lodge, by virtue of their appointments; nor shall they be entitled to any of the prerogatives which belong peculiarly to the officers of the Grand Lodge. For their compensation they shall be allowed the same mileage and per diem, while actually engaged in the duties of their office, which is allowed the Representatives of Subordinate Lodges in this Grand Lodge, to be paid by the Lodges visited by them.

5. That nothing contained in these resolutions shall be so construed as to impair in any manner the prerogatives of the Grand Master or Deputy Grand Master.

The committee do not claim, for the plan embraced in the above resolutions, entire exemption from imperfection, or just objection. They entertain no doubt but time will disclose imperfections not now apparent. As presented, however, it is adopted by the committee in a spirit of compromise and concession, and in that spirit, recommended to the Grand Lodge as perhaps the best mode which can now be agreed on to attain the great object contemplated by the resolution under which they were appointed.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

RICHARD COOPER, Chairman
REUBEN NASON,
D. N. BARROWS,
J. A. HANSON,

Committee.

On motion of Bro. Dixon, the report was received and laid upon the table.

Bro. Spann presented the following report:

The undersigned Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation would most respectfully beg leave to report, that they have examined, with diligent care, the various By-Laws, proceedings, and other documents submitted to them for examination, and find all the proceedings and reports of the following Lodges, Under Dispensation, to be correct, to-wit:

Mellen, Patton, Falconer, Greenwood, Solomon, Castilian, Charles Scott, Jacinto, Lookahoma, Friendship, Waterford, Tallaloosa and Benela.

The By-Laws of Fulton, Lodi, Alamutchu, Jefferson, Summerville, Bay St. Louis and Dabney Lipscomb Lodges should be so changed as to conform to the Rules of the Grand Lodge in trials.

Article 4, Section I, of the By-Laws of Water Valley Lodge, permitting degrees to be conferred on ministers of the Gospel gratis, is unconstitutional, and should be changed.

Article 5, Section I, of the By-Laws of the same Lodge, permits petitions to

be withdrawn after an unfavorable report thereon. This is erroneous and should be stricken out.

Rules 6 and 10, of same Lodges, permitting appeals to be taken from the decisions of the Worshipful Master, are erroneous and should be amended.

The By-Laws of Dalton Lodge are correct, with the exception that ministers of the Gospel may be exempted from fees, which your committee recommend should be amended.

Centre Hill By-Laws should be so amended as to conform to the regulations of the Grand Lodge as to ministers, appeals, discipline, etc., as adopted by the same.

Your Committee would recommend that charters be granted to the aforesaid Lodges upon the correction of the several errors above mentioned.

Your Committee would further report, that they have had under consideration the petition of Bro. James W. Rhew and others asking a Dispensation to open a new Lodge at Charleston, in Tallahatchie county, to be called George Washington Lodge.

The petition of Bro. S. G. Jenkins and others for a new Lodge at Pine Bluff, in the county of Copiah, to be called Pine Bluff Lodge.

The petition of Bro. Michael Ross and others for a new Lodge at Centre Ridge, in Kemper county, to be called Centre Ridge Lodge.

The petition of Bro. A. L. Wear and others for a new Lodge at Harrisburg, in Pontotoc county, to be called Harrisburg Lodge.

The petition of Bro. W. S. Ragland and others for a new Lodge at Daleville, Lauderdale county, to be called Daleville Lodge.

The petition of Bro. Robert M. Davis and others for a new Lodge at Pleasant Grove, in Smith county, to be called Pleasant Grove Lodge.

The petition of Bro. L. E. Laird and others for a new Lodge at Orizaba, in Tippah county, to be called Orizaba Lodge.

The petition of Bro. W. A. Champlain and others for a new Lodge at Mississippi City, to be called Polar Star Lodge.

The petition of Bro. E. F. Gaddis and others for a new Lodge at Gaddis' Store, in Leake county, to be called Sunshine Lodge.

And would recommend that Dispensations be issued to them according to the several prayers of the petitioners, except in the case of Bro. Laird and others, at Orizaba, in Tippah county, which the Committee believe to be too near a chartered Lodge, being only seven miles distant.

Your Committee, in conclusion, would remark that they, with regret, notice the irregularity and want of uniformity of work in the several Lodges, which has been submitted to them, judging from the evidences as contained in the minutes of the various Lodges under Dispensation.

Your Committee would respectfully recommend the adoption of such regulations as would secure a uniformity of work.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES S. SPANN,
WILLIAM H. LOTT,
SAMUEL WHITNEY,
E. BRADSHAW,
C. R. BALFOUR,

JAMES WATTS,
REUBEN NASON,
B. F. YERBY,
RICHARD COOPER,
J. W. STANLEY,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received.

Bro. Youngblood moved to recommit the report, with instructions to strike out that portion which relates to ministers of the Gospel; which motion did not prevail.

The report was then agreed to.

The Committee on Unfinished Business reported that upon examination of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, at the last Grand Annual Communication

thereof, they were unable to find anything that requires any action of the Grand Lodge at the present Communication.

On motion of Bro. P. Lee Phillips,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to our Past Grand Master, Charles Scott, and his associate Grand Officers, for the able and dignified manner in which they discharged their important and responsible duties.

Bro. Stokes presented the following report:

The Committee on Charity beg leave to report, that, after due deliberation, they are of the opinion that for want of a well digested system, much of the funds of our Lodge are wasted on objects comparatively unprofitable. Charity! the top round of our Masonic ladder—the glory of our ancient order, and leading trait of every good Masonic character, is the bond of perfection and cement of every virtue. Your Committee think that some plan should be devised for the guidance of Lodges in the outlay of funds on objects the most suitable. One, and of all others the most important, is the education of the children of indigent Master Masons. Your Committee think it to be the first duty of Subordinate Lodges to furnish the children of poor Master Masons with a good English education at least, rescuing them from vice and degradation—the usual attendants of ignorance, and making them useful members of society.

The application of their funds is wisely left to the Subordinate Lodges themselves, and to the Grand Master above they are alone responsible for the manner in which they, as stewards, use the funds He has intrusted in their hands.

The Committee beg leave to offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That all Lodges under this jurisdiction are urgently requested to make the education of the children of indigent Master Masons the first and most important of all objects of charity.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE STOKES,
J. B. BURKE,
D. N. DARROWS.
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Stokes presented the following report:

The Committee to whom was referred the case of Mrs. Vannatta, report that whilst they are convinced of the impolicy of indiscriminate bestowments of charities on objects even in our jurisdiction, yet the case of Mrs. Vannatta is a peculiar one, being the relict of our venerated P. G. M., G. W. Vannatta, and recommend that the sum of fifty dollars be sent to Bro. T. J. Harper, of Vicksburg, to be by him transmitted to Mrs. Vannatta.

Respectfully submitted,

GEORGE STOKES,
J. B. BURKE,
D. N. BARROWS,
Committee.

On motion the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Speight presented the following report:

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to report, that they have examined the returns of such Subordinate Lodges as have been sent to this Grand Lodge, and find the returns from the following named Lodges correct. They have also examined the credentials of the members and find all correct, except such as are herein specified:

Lodges Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 16, 17, 18, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 47* 48, 49, 51, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 70, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85*,

* For '49 and '50.

86, 87, 88, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124.

Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, has conferred 28 degrees, but charges for only 21. Yazoo is deficient in report of dues fifty cents. Ripley No. 47 returns 45 members—should be 46. Pythagorean No. 48 returns 39 members—should be 38. Greensboro No. 49 returns 57 members—should be 54. Chulahoma No. 55 returns 48 members—should be 50. Marion No. 62 returns 45 members—should be 46. Asylum No. 63 returns 70 members—should be 73. Silas Brown No. 65 returns 33 members—should be 36. Vannatta No. 68 returns 39 members—should be 41. Holmesville No. 69 returns 42 members—should be 41. Evening Star No. 70 returns 23 members—should be 26. Ebenezer No. 76 returns 55 members—should be 56. Westville No. 78 returns 40 members—should be 44. Eastern Star No. 79 returns 34 members—should be 30. Pontotoc No. 81 returns 48 members—should be 45. Emory No. 95 returns 39 members—should be 41. Byhalia No. 115 returns 62 members—should be 63. Salem Lodge has conferred 115 degrees, and reports only 106. Tchula No. 122 returns 33 degrees conferred—should be 32. Bovina No. 112 returns 13 degrees conferred—should be 57. Hill City No. 121 returns 27 members—should be 26.

The credentials of the following named brethren are not properly authenticated, not being attested by the Secretary of their respective Lodges:

Salem Lodge, No. 45, Lafayette Robinson, proxy for W. M.

Pythagorean Lodge, No. 48, James S. Hemphill, proxy for W. M.

Madison Lodge, No. 73, Charles R. Balfour, proxy for W. M.

The Committee recommend that the following mentioned amendments be made to the By-Laws of the Subordinate Lodges here named. * * *

The Committee would remark that many of the returns are signed by the officers of the present instead of the last Masonic year, which is irregular and informal.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. W. SPEIGHT, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. M. W. Phillips presented the following report:

The Committee on Education to whom was referred the report, with accompanying documents from Eureka College, have had that subject under consideration, and after examination have instructed me to report, that it is inexpedient to make any further appropriation out of the funds of the Grand Lodge to Eureka College.

Which is respectfully submitted,

M. W. PHILLIPS, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Nason,

Resolved, That Bros. Hemphill, Robinson and Balfour be permitted to hold their seats as members of the Grand Lodge the same as if their credentials had been properly attested.

Bro. Phillips presented the following reports:

The Committee on Education, to whom was referred the petition of Rev. Bro. T. C. Thornton, have had the subject under consideration, and instruct me to report, that there is no evidence before them that either the Subordinate Lodge at Brandon, or of the Grand Lodge, by themselves or agents, by any act, contracted an obligation to pay him his charges for the instruction of the orphan children of ——— Chisholm, a late Master Mason. There is no propriety in the Grand Lodge granting the request of the petition. Therefore, your Com.

* The amendments suggested by the Committee, referring to articles and sections, do not disclose their nature and are therefore omitted in the reprint.

mittee be discharged from the further consideration of said petition and resolution accompanying the same.

Respectfully submitted,

M. W. PHILLIPS, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

The Committee on Education to whom was referred the petition from Grenada Lodge, No. 31, and DeWitt Clinton Chapter, asking aid and sympathy of the Grand Lodge in their efforts to establish a High School at Grenada, have had that subject under consideration, and have instructed me to make the following report.

By the report of your Committee upon the subject of a plan best suited to the condition of the Grand Lodge for education of indigent children of worthy Master Masons, it will be seen that all the funds in the hands of the Grand Lodge, and those funds proposed to be raised in future for educational purposes are designed to be appropriated. Whilst, therefore, your Committee do most cordially sympathize with the friends of the Grenada institution, and most earnestly wish them success, it is deemed inexpedient by your Committee, to render aid by a pecuniary appropriation.

Respectfully submitted,

M. W. PHILLIPS, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

The Grand Secretary presented the following report:

The Committee to which was referred the rights of Past Masters from other jurisdictions, to a seat in this Grand Lodge, ask permission to report, that they deem it unnecessary to go into the general question of such right when uncontrolled by the Constitution, as so far as the Grand Lodge is concerned, the question of such right is settled by the 1st Section of the Constitution.

"Past Masters of Subordinate Lodges," are the only Past Masters who are mentioned as members. The words "of Subordinate Lodges" restrict the right to those who have been Masters within this jurisdiction. By no possibility could these words mean Past Masters of Lodges not Subordinate to this Grand Lodge. If the intention had been to include all Past Masters, the words would have been simply, "Past Masters by office."

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES SCOTT,
A. V. ROWE,
WM. P. MELLEN,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

The Grand Secretary presented the following report:

The Committee to which was referred the memorial of Eastern Star Lodge, No. 79, relative to Bro. Wm. Peebles, beg to report, that the memorialists state that, Bro. Peebles was a member of Eastern Star Lodge, No. 27, at the time said Lodge forfeited their charter in 1840, or 1841; when Eastern Star Lodge, No. 79, was formed in the same place, Bro. Peebles' name was not mentioned in the charter, and having removed from the jurisdiction of said Lodge, has petitioned that Lodge for a dimit. The Lodge not believing that they possessed the power, ask the Grand Lodge to confer it upon them.

Your Committee do not think it within the power of the Grand Lodge, if expedient, to confer the right upon Eastern Star Lodge, to certify to a matter as a fact, which does not appear to be true. The Lodge cannot certify that Bro. Peebles has dimitted from Eastern Star Lodge, No. 27, or Eastern Star Lodge, No. 79. The difficulty, however, is easily overcome, by Bro. Peebles obtaining a certificate of the Grand Secretary of his having been a member of Eastern Star Lodge, No. 27, that said Lodge forfeited their charter, and if such

be case, that said Peebles was in good standing by the last report of that Lodge to the Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. P. MELLEEN,
A. V. ROWE,
Committee.

On motion the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Clark presented the following report :

The undersigned Committee to whom was referred the petition of Levi Dolbear and Nicholas Gahan, respectfully suggest that the prayer of the petitioners be not granted, and that the regulating of the rent of the lower rooms of the Hall be left to our worthy brother Grand Secretary.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY CLARK,
JOS. DEUTSCH,
Committee.

Bro. Kendrick presented a minority report on same subject, and Bro. Martin moved that the minority report be received and agreed to, and that the majority report be laid upon the table; but the Grand Lodge refused to receive the minority report, and, on motion, the majority report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Stanley offered the following :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge will not in future, grant a dispensation for, or cause a charter to be issued to any Lodge, located within ten miles of any Lodge already chartered and at work ; *Provided*, however, that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prevent the establishment of one or more Lodges within the limits of any incorporated city or town.

Bro. Hawkins moved an amendment, but on motion of Bro. Speight, the resolution and amendment were laid upon the table.

On motion of Bro. Martin,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hold in high esteem, the work lately written by P. G. Master Scott, styled the "Analogy of Ancient Craft Masonry to Revealed Religion," and recommend it to be read and studied by the Craft in this State, as well as throughout the Masonic fraternity.

2. That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure a Grand Masters' jewel, to be of gold, to be presented to P. G. M. Scott, as a testimonial of the high esteem in which he is held by this Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Rowe,

Resolved, That the resolution of the Grand Lodge, adopted at the Grand Annual Communication in the year 1847, requesting the trustees of Eureka Masonic College to make annual reports to this Grand Lodge, be, and the same is hereby rescinded.

Bro. Holt offered the following :

Resolved, That Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 86, having, through its delegate, represented that it is not able to educate several indigent children of worthy Master Masons within its vicinity, the sum of one hundred dollars be appropriated to said Mount Moriah Lodge for the aforesaid purpose.

On motion the resolution was laid upon the table.

Bro. Orr presented a petition for a new Lodge at Hartford.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, February 5, 1851, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

M. W. WILLIAM H. STEVENS.....	Grand Master.
R. W. JAMES M. HOWRY.....	Deputy Grand Master.
WILLIAM COTHRAN.....	Grand Senior Warden.
BARTON EVANS.....	Grand Junior Warden.
Rev. T. W. CASKEY.....	Grand Chaplain.
WILLIAM BARKSDALE.....	Grand Orator.
GEORGE J. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
WM. P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
DAVID N. BARROWS.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
H. L. HILL.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
E. W. ROOTES.....	Grand Marshal.
JAMES WATTS.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
WILLIAM H. LOTT.....	Grand Pursuivant.
ANSEL H. KENDRICK.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

All others same as on yesterday.

On motion of Bro. Foote.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to have six hundred copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge at the present Communication printed, with an index to each, to be distributed according to the usual custom.

Bro. Speight presented the following report :

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges, to whom was referred the resolution of Bro. Orr, relative to appeals from the decisions of the Worshipful Master to the Lodge over which he presides, beg leave to report that they concur in the adoption of the following :

1. The Worshipful Master of a Subordinate Lodge is the agent of the Grand Lodge within his Masonic jurisdiction.
2. His decisions upon matters of Masonic law or usage is, with respect to his own Lodge, absolute.
3. From his decisions there is no appeal to his own Lodge, but to the Grand Lodge, except upon mere questions of order, which have no reference to Masonic customs or usages.

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. SPEIGHT, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to, with the exception of that part which allows of appeals upon "mere questions of order."

Bro. Godfrey offered the following :

Resolved, That in consideration of the expense incurred by Trinity Lodge, No. 88, in the erection or support of a Female Institute in the town of Kosciusko, the dues of said Lodge be and the same are hereby remitted.

On motion of Bro. Youngblood the resolution was laid upon the table.

Bro. Speight presented the following report :

The special committee to whom was referred the resolutions of Prairie Lodge, No. 87, relative to the 33d and 34th articles of the General and Permanent Regulations of the Grand Lodge, beg leave to report, that they concur in the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the 33d and 34th articles of the General and Permanent Regulations of the Grand Lodge, relative to taxing non-affiliated brethren, be rescinded, together with all other regulations of the Grand Lodge relative to the same subject.

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. SPEIGHT, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Cooper presented the following report :

The Committee on Lodges under Dispensation respectfully report, that since their report of this morning they have reconsidered their action on the petition for a new Lodge at Gaddis' Store, in Leake county, to be called "Sunshine," and are of opinion, from evidence brought before them since said report was made, that the application is not regularly made, and therefore recommend that so much of the report of this morning as relates to said new Lodge be reconsidered and recommittd, with instructions to report against said application.

They recommend further that so much of their former report as refuses a Dispensation to Bro. Laird and others, in Tippah county, be reconsidered and leave given to amend, so as to recommend that a Dispensation issue to petitioners on the usual conditions.

CHARLES S. SPANN,
M. T. ANDERSON,
RICHARD COOPER,
REUREN NASON,
Committee.

On motion the report was received and agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Evans,

Resolved, That the members of Bethel Lodge, No. 107, be permitted to locate their Lodge at Palmer's Spring, instead of Burkettsville.

On motion of Bro. Godfrey,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge suspend the payment of dues of Trinity Lodge, No. 88, until the next Grand Annual Communication.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned, till 9 o'clock A. M., to-morrow.

THURSDAY, February 6, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges was reconsidered, and

Ordered, That an error in regard to Coleman Lodge, No. 29, be corrected.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was called up and agreed to.

Bro. Rowe was added to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals to fill a vacancy occasioned by absence of one of the Committee.

A communication from the Washington National Monument Society, acknowledging the receipt of one hundred dollars from the Grand Lodge, was presented by the Grand Secretary, and ordered to be filed.

Bro. Phillips presented the following report :

The Committee on Education, to whom was referred the several resolutions and instructions of Subordinate Lodges, on the general subject of education, and on the adoption of a plan, best suited to the condition of Masonry, under the Jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, have had these subjects under consideration, and after full consultation and deliberation, have instructed me to make the following report :

That the culture of the mind is the most important subject which can be presented to our consideration, but few in this enlightened age will deny. So

universal is this sentiment among Masons that your Committee deem it useless to occupy the time of the Grand Lodge with anything more than to announce the fact—that they unite with all intelligent communities on the subject.

The model best suited to our Masonic condition, for the purpose of dispensing the benefits of Education to the destitute children of worthy brothers, is a subject upon which there may be, and no doubt is, a great variety of opinion. From the act of the Grand Lodge, at its last Grand Annual Communication, the School Fund was ordered to be distributed among the Subordinate Lodges. In pursuance of which, a portion of that fund has passed out of the control of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge has no funds on hand, adequate to the establishment of any high school, or even competent to the efficient aid of any institution of learning now existing.

It has been deemed necessary by your Committee to report unfavorably to all applications for pecuniary aid to such schools as some of the Subordinate Lodges have, in their commendable zeal, in the cause of mental improvement, established in several parts of the State. But in doing so, your Committee have felt the deepest interest in the success of these generous efforts.

If the Grand Lodge were possessed of a large School Fund, or if your Committee could see a prospect of raising a large fund, the course proper to be recommended for adoption, could be speedily selected. But under our present circumstances, your Committee have come to the conclusion, that it is the true policy of the Grand Lodge not to attempt, at this time, the establishment of a Masonic College, or the establishment of a system of common schools, to be under the control of the Grand Lodge.

The subject of the education of the indigent children of worthy brothers, is one of too general interest to be passed over without the most liberal exertions of the Grand Lodge, consistent with their means, and although your Committee deeply regret the great difficulty of adopting a mode of using to the best advantage, what funds there may be in the treasury, or may come into it for the purposes of education, still, they are of the opinion that it is in the power of the Grand Lodge to do much good:

1st. By rescinding the resolution passed at the last Communication, reducing the contributions from Subordinate Lodges, from one dollar to fifty cents for each member, could be set apart for purposes of education.

2d. By dividing the State into seven suitable districts, and whenever the education fund shall be sufficient to justify the education of seven pupils, the Grand Lodge can adopt a just and equitable mode of selecting one pupil from each of said districts, to be placed at some school or college in this State, and educated at the expense of that fund.

3d. By recommending to the Subordinate Lodges, the propriety and necessity of making an exertion within their respective jurisdictions, to obtain voluntary contributions from liberal and generous brethren to the general education fund of the Grand Lodge, confining said contributions to the purposes of educating the indigent children of worthy brothers; and

4th. By recommending to the Subordinate Lodges, that they report at each and every Grand Communication the number of children of indigent Masons within this jurisdiction; the number educated by the Subordinate Lodges; the cost of the same, together with the names of such promising youths as by their talents would be most likely to reflect credit on the institution by a collegiate education.

As the results of the enquiries and examination of your Committee, the following resolutions are respectfully offered for the consideration and adoption of the Grand Lodge:

Resolved, That the Constitution be so amended that hereafter the contributions paid by each Subordinate Lodge into the treasury of the Grand Lodge, shall be one one dollar for each member, instead of fifty cents, and that the sum of fifty cents for each member be set apart for educational purposes, and used only in the education of indigent children of worthy Master Masons.

2d. That the State of Mississippi be divided into seven Masonic School Dis-

tricts, and that whenever the educational fund shall be sufficient for the liberal education of seven pupils, it shall be the duty of the Grand Lodge to select seven pupils, one from each Masonic School District, and have them placed at some high school or college in this State, to be educated at the expense of the educational fund; and that the number of pupils to be educated shall be increased whenever the school fund shall be sufficient to justify the selection of two pupils from each District, and so on in the rates specified. *Provided*, no one District shall have at school more pupils than each of the others; and further, that the Grand Lodge shall not be debarred the privilege of aiding such Subordinate Lodges as may need assistance, to give a primary education to the children adjacent thereto.

3d. That it be recommended to Subordinate Lodges to make a strenuous exertion within their respective jurisdictions, to obtain voluntary contributions from generous and liberal brethren, to the general education fund of the Grand Lodge, and that the several sums of money so contributed, be specially reported by the Subordinate Lodges, and paid over to the said fund, and appropriated to no other purposes whatever, except the education of indigent children of worthy brothers.

4th. That the fund on hand and under the control of the Grand Lodge for educational purposes should be retained and set apart for the exclusive benefit of the moral and intellectual culture of the indigent children of worthy brethren.

5th. That the Subordinate Lodges be instructed to report annually to the Grand Lodge, the number of indigent children of Master Masons within their respective jurisdictions, and the amount of money expended by them for primary education of such children—designating males and females—together with the names of such promising youths, whose talents give earnest of great usefulness to the community and credit to the fraternity.

6th. That the subject of primary education, like the universal subject of charity, is, in the opinion of the Grand Lodge, safely deposited and kept within the bodies of the Subordinate Lodges, and that a suggestion as to the propriety and necessity of giving their strictest attention to the moral and intellectual culture of orphans left in destitute and indigent circumstances by worthy Master Masons, is believed to be totally unnecessary, having full confidence in the Subordinate Lodges, that they will exert their best efforts to secure the advantages of primary education at home, to all destitute children of worthy brothers.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

M. W. PHILLIPS, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received.

Bro. Hampton moved to strike out the second resolution, and insert:

Resolved, That the fund arising from the educational fund, be divided *pro rata* among the Subordinate Lodges, to be expended by them as they may deem best for educational purposes.

On motion of Bro. Kopperl, the report, resolutions and amendment offered, were laid upon the table.

Bro. Spann presented the following report:

The Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation beg leave to report, that they have fully examined the minutes, By-Laws and returns of Benela Lodge, U. D., and find the work of that Lodge to have been performed correctly—their By-Laws consistent with the Constitution and their returns properly made out. Your Committee therefore recommend that a charter be granted to Benela Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES WATTS,
J. W. STANLEY,
M. T. ANDERSON,

CHARLES S. SPANN,
REUBEN NASON,
RICHARD COOPER,
Committee.

The report of the Committee on the subject of dividing the State into Masonic Districts, presented by Bro. Cooper, was called from the table, and a motion was made to agree to the same, but upon the motion of Bro. Hawkins, it was again laid upon the table.

Bro. Phillips presented the following resolution, reported by the Committee on Education :

Resolved, That the surplus educational funds now in the treasury be distributed, *pro rata*, among the Subordinate Lodges, according to the number of their members.

Your Committee beg leave to recommend the adoption of the above.

M. W. PHILLIPS, Chairman.

The report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Rowe, offered the following :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge cause to be prepared, a suitable stone, to be procured within the limits of the State of Mississippi, to be forwarded to the Board of Managers of the Washington National Monument Society, to be placed in the Obelisk of the Monument, as a testimony of the high regard and veneration which this Grand Lodge entertains for the character of our illustrious brother, George Washington.

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed to carry the foregoing resolution into effect, and that the sum of ——— dollars be appropriated for that purpose.

Bro. Youngblood moved, as a substitute, that a subscription be raised for that purpose, that all might contribute individually to that purpose.

On motion, the substitute was laid upon the table.

The blank in the second resolution was then filled with the words "two hundred," and the resolution adopted.

The following compose the Committee appointed by the Chair to carry said resolutions into effect : Bros. Rowe, Rowlett, Cothran, Burke and Mellen.

On motion of Bro. Holt,

Resolved, That in publishing the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, the names of non-contributing brethren reported under the 33d regulation in regard to non-affiliating brethren, be omitted.

Bro. G. M. Powell offered the following :

Resolved, That the Subordinate Lodges be requested to instruct their respective delegates how to vote upon the proposed amendment to the Constitution, at the next Annual Communication, and that they be required to vote according to such instructions.

Which resolution was, on motion, laid upon the table.

Bro. Spann presented the following report :

The undersigned Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation, would most respectfully report, that they have examined the petition of Bro. B. Murry and others, asking a Dispensation to open a new Lodge at Hartford, in Chickasaw county, to be called Hartford Lodge, and would respectfully recommend that a Dispensation be issued to them according to the prayer of the petitioners.

Respectfully submitted.

CHARLES S. SPANN,
R. NASON,
M. T. ANDERSON,

RICHARD COOPER,
JAMES VATTs,
J. W. SANLEY,
Committee.

Bro. Evans offered the following :

Resolved, That hereafter it shall be improper for the Lodges subordinate to

this Grand Lodge to allow any one to lecture on Masonry who shall not produce authority from the Grand Master, or one who shall have been elected to discharge the duties of Grand Lecturer.

On motion, laid upon table.

On motion of Bro. Steele,

Resolved, That the plan reported by the Committee for districting the State be published with the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, and that the Subordinate Lodges take action on the subject.

The Grand Steward and Tyler's account for \$40 was reported to be correct by the Committee on Accounts, and the report was received and agreed to and the account ordered to be paid.

On motion of Bro. Youngblood,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge deems it expedient so to amend the 4th article of the Constitution as to read as follows:

Sec. 4. Every Subordinate Lodge shall be represented in the Grand Lodge, by its Officers, representatives, or the proxies of its Master and Wardens, who must be Master Masons, and members of the Lodge which they represent, and such appointments, whether of representative or proxy, must be certified by the Secretary, and the seal of the Lodge affixed thereto."

This lies over until the next Grand Annual Communication for final action.

On motion of Bro. P. Lee Phillips,

Resolved, That Harrison Lodge, No. 57, have until the next Grand Annual Communication to pay its dues.

On motion of Bro. Cooper,

Resolved, That the next Grand Annual Communication be held on the 3d Monday in January next.

On motion of Bro. Orr,

Resolved, That any Subordinate Lodge, on the trial of an offending brother, when it shall deem it proper for the harmony of the fraternity, after the case has been made up according to the rules heretofore adopted, may remove the case for trial to any other neighboring Lodge by the consent of the party accused.

On motion of Bro. Liddell,

Resolved, That the 23d and 24th sections of General and Permanent Regulations be and the same are hereby rescinded.

On motion of Bro. Foote,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge deems it improper and unmasonic for any Subordinate Lodge to permit any itinerant Masonic Lecturer to visit their Lodges for the purpose of lecturing without the recommendation of the Grand Master of this State.

Bro. Nason offered as an additional section to the General and Permanent Regulations relative to trials:

"Nothing in these Rules contained shall be so construed as to prevent a Lodge from acting in a summary manner, with regard to offences committed in open Lodge."

Bro. Youngblood offered a substitute, but the original and substitute were upon the table.

On motion of Bro. Foote,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to have the necessary repairs done to the Masonic Hall, at a cost not exceeding the rents for the same for the year 1851.

Ordered, That upon Lamar Lodge making returns within sixty days, and the Proceedings and By-Laws being approved by the Grand Secretary, a charter shall be issued to said Lodge.

On motion of Bro. P. Lee Phillips,

Resolved, That Wilson Lodge, No. 72, have ninety days in which to pay its dues.

On motion of Bro. Foote,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to purchase, for the use of the Grand Officers of this Grand Lodge, thirteen lambskin aprons.

The Grand Senior Warden presented the following report :

The Committee on Work, etc., have had the subject under consideration, and have devoted much time thereto. They have had lectures of several distinguished and bright Masons, and while they see much in the work and lectures of each which meets the approval of your Committee, they cannot approve the entire work and lectures of any one said brothers. Your Committee do not therefore feel satisfied to report a system of work and lectures at this Communication. This subject is of much interest to the Craft, and should receive due consideration by the fraternity. Your Committee are of the opinion that they could report a system of work and lectures which would meet the approval of the fraternity, by the next meeting of the Grand Lodge.

Your Committee would therefore, offer the following resolution, and recommend its adoption :

Resolved, That the Committee on Work be continued and allowed until the next Grand Annual Communication to make their report.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WM. H. STEVENS, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

No further business appearing, after prayer by the most Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge was closed in Ample Form.

WM. P. MELLEEN, Grand Secretary.

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

1852.

NATCHEZ, January 19, 1852.

The Grand Lodge was opened in Ample Form.

PRESENT:

M. W. WM. H. STEVENS.....	Grand Master.
R. W. JAMES M. HOWRY.....	Deputy Grand Master.
WM. COTHRAN.....	Grand Senior Warden.
BARTON EVANS.....	Grand Junior Warden.
REV. T. W. CASKEY.....	Grand Chaplain.
GEORGE J. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
GEO. STOKES.....	Grand Senior Deacon, p. l.
CHARLES KOPPERL.....	Grand Junior Deacon, p. l.
JAMES WATTS.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
WM. H. LOTT.....	Grand Pursuivant.
ANSEL H. KENDRICK.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

JOHN WATTS.....	Past Grand Junior Warden.
BENJ. ESTES.....	Past Grand Junior Warden.
JAMES A. CHAPMAN.....	Past Grand Senior Deacon.
THOS. C. FINNEY.....	Past Grand Marshal.
E. CRAIG.....	Past Grand Sword Bearer.
JAMES E. WATTS.....	Past Grand Pursuivant.

PAST MASTERS.

W. H. CLARK.....	Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 2.
J. C. PATRICK.....	Grand Gulf, No. 41.
REUBEN NASON.....	Pythagorean, No. 48.
S. A. D. STEELE.....	Lafayette, No. 53.
CHAS. S. SPANN.....	Tappan, No. 59.
CHAS. KOPPERL.....	DeWitt Clinton, No. 84.
WM. R. CANNON.....	Abert, No. 89.
L. D. LANGFORD.....	Emory, No. 95.
JOS. S. MORRIS.....	DeSoto, No. 100.
DAN'L S. WOOD.....	Alamutcha, No. 130.

REPRESENTATIVES.

Masters, Wardens, Proxies and Representatives of the following named Lodges, to-wit :

Harmony Lodge, No. 1—Giles M. Hillyer, w. m.; A. P. McMillan, s. w.; Wm. Bunting, J. w.

Andrew Jackson, No. 2—Jos. Deutsch, w. m.; John Roundtree, s. w.; J. Peebles, J. w.

Washington, No. 3—G. W. H. Shaiffer, J. w.

Clinton, No. 16—George Stokes, w. m.

Leake, No. 17—Martin M. Friley, w. m.

Raymond, No. 21—A. M. Key, s. w.

Lexington, No. 24—James M. Haynes, w. m.

Vicksburg, No. 26—Jno. F. Bodley, proxy, s. w.; N. G. Bryson, Rep.

Coleman, No. 29—Edward Jack, w. m.

Grenada, No. 31—Daniel Rosser, proxy, w. m.

Aberdeen, No. 32—J. W. Speight, w. m.

Oxford, No. 33—A. Roggenburger, w. m.

Holly Springs, No. 35—G. R. Freeman, w. m.

Carrollton, No. 36—W. B. Helm, proxy, s. and J. w.

Grand Gulf, No. 41—J. C. Patrick, proxy, w. m.

Yazoo, No. 42—J. B. Deason, proxy, w. m.

Bipley, No. 47—J. B. Ellis, w. m.

Pythagorean, No. 48—J. M. Strong, J. w.

Hernando, No. 51—J. O. Lusher, w. m.

Lafayette, No. 53—Samuel A. D. Steele, proxy, w. m.

Sterling, No. 54—James A. Chapman, w. m.

Chulahoma, No. 55—R. P. Bowen, w. m.

Harrison, No. 57—James E. Watts, w. m.

Tappan, No. 59—Chas. S. Spann, proxy, w. m.

St. Albans, No. 60—Wm. H. Lott, proxy, w. m.

Eureka, No. 91—David Mitchell, w. m.

Marion, No. 62—Geo. Wood, Rep.

DeKalb, No. 64—James Watts, proxy, w. m.

Houston, No. 67—J. M. Thompson, s. w.

Vannatta, No. 68—Richard Cloper, w. m.

Holmesville, No. 69—S. Matthews, Rep.

Joseph Warren, No. 71—C. G. Mitchell, s. w.

Madison, No. 73—C. R. Crawford, proxy, w. m.

Camden, No. 74—S. Ford, Rep.

Louisville, No. 75—Nathaniel Woodward, Rep.

Ebenezer, No. 76—Thos. Fitzgerald, s. w.

Coffeeville, No. 83—A. S. Campbell, s. w.

DeWitt Clinton, No. 84—C. Kopperl, proxy, w. m.

Trinity, No. 88—Isaac W. Scarborough, w. m.

Abert, No. 89—William R. Cannon, Rep.

Belmont, No. 90—John B. Dickens, Rep.

Willis, No. 92—Isaac N. Hodges, Rep.

Philadelphia, No. 93—H. C. Robinson, w. m.

Emory, No. 95—L. D. Langford, Rep.

North Mt. Pleasant, No. 99—R. S. Jones, w. m.

DeSoto, No. 100—Jos. W. Morris, Rep.

Malone, No. 101—T. W. Caskey, Rep.

Pearl River, No. 105—J. A. Harrison, w. m.

Bethel, No. 107—B. Evans, Rep.

Carrollville, No. 108—James H. Kennedy, w. m.

Claiborne, No. 110—W. R. Lackey, Rep.

Moses Cook, No. 111—Nathan Corley, s. w.

Bovina, No. 112—T. J. Thompson, proxy, w. m.

Hyland, No. 113—S. J. Goodrum, s. w.
 Lowndes, No. 114—W. S. Featherston.
 Unity, No. 117—M. W. Phillips, proxy w. m.; R. Kells, s. w.
 Hill City, No. 121—Geo. H. Gray, proxy, w. m.
 Oak Ridge, No. 123—B. F. Johnson, w. m.
 Thomastown, No. 124—C. C. Allen, w. m.
 Solomon, No. 126—Wm. D. Lackland, proxy officers.
 Friendship, No. 127—John C. Brahan, J. w.
 Patton, No. 129—J. A. McMillan, proxy w. m.
 Alamutcha, No. 130—D. S. Wood, proxy, officers.
 Water Valley, No. 132—Lewis Lawshe, Rep.
 Greenwood, No. 135—Wm. Cothran, Rep.
 Falconer, No. 137—Berry McCarty, proxy w. m.
 Mellen, No. 138—G. M. Gillaspie, Rep.
 Castillian, No. 139—John G. Wilson, proxy w. m.
 Benela, No. 140—Sam'l McCreight, w. m.
 Jacinto, No. 140—D. R. Corley, Rep.
 Dalton, No. 143—James Watts, proxy w. m.
 Dabney Lipscomb, No. 144—W. P. Mellen, proxy, w. m.
 Looxahoma, No. 145—John S. Logan, Rep.
 Jefferson, No. 146—Thomas R. Thurmond, Rep.
 Cannon, U. D.—Jos. T. Randolph, s. w.
 Ellisville, U. D.—E. B. Harvey, w. m.
 St. John's, U. D.—H. J. Holmes, w. m.
 Vinton, U. D.—R. Nason, w. m.
 Prayer by Rev. Bro. D. S. Wood.

The Grand Master then delivered an address, which, on motion of Bro. Cooper, was ordered to be spread upon the minutes:

Brethren of the Grand Lodge:

In assembling once more to consult for the interests of our beloved Institution, it is a cause for no slight congratulation that no circumstances of a serious character have occurred since our last Annual Communication, to mar the harmony of the Craft within our borders—schism and dissension have been unknown among us; and though it is not to be doubted, that many errors must have been committed in Subordinate Lodges, both in work and legislation, yet the Fraternity in this jurisdiction, have, by the blessing of Heaven, been preserved through another year, in that peace and harmony which have always heretofore characterized them.

Since the last Annual Communication, dispensations have been issued to some ten new Lodges.

The brethren of Snowsville Lodge, No. 119, having, in an unauthorized manner, changed their place of meeting to the village of Bankston, on being apprised of their error, applied to me to sanction their removal, which I did upon the recommendation of Greensboro Lodge, No. 49, in whose vicinity is the present location of their Lodge. I granted them a dispensation to work at Bankston, until the meeting of the Grand Lodge.

In accordance with the resolution of the Grand Lodge, declaring it unnecessary for Subordinate Lodges to employ any itinerant lecturers, not authorized by the Grand Master to lecture, I appointed brothers Thomas J. Hawkins and Reuben Nason to give instruction to such Lodges, as would require it. I regret, however, that the spirit of the regulation has, as I learn, been infringed by self-constituted lecturers from other jurisdictions; and I would recommend the adoption of some more stringent resolution on the subject.

The Committee appointed to report a system of work and lectures for the regulation of the Craft in this jurisdiction, will be prepared, at your present Communication, to make a report of the result of a comparison of many systems of work, which have engaged their attention.

The generally expressed desire for uniformity of work, and the certainty that such uniformity can only be attained by reposing some confidence in a select committee, whose attention has been directed to that special purpose, leads to the hope that this Grand Lodge will adopt the system which the committee may present as the result of their labors.

An important subject for the consideration of the Grand Lodge will then be, the method to be adopted for securing the preservation of this system, and the dissemination of it among the Subordinate Lodges. For the attainment of the first object, the appointment of a permanent Grand Lecturer may be suggested; for the second, which, with the number of Lodges we have within this jurisdiction, could not easily be effected by the labors of a single individual, the appointment of Deputy Lecturers, duly instructed by the Grand Lecturer, and on his recommendation, commissioned by the Grand Master, or the appointment of District Deputy Grand Masters. Perhaps a plan can be devised containing the advantages of both.

This subject will no doubt meet with due attention on your part, as the report of the Committee on the division of this jurisdiction into Masonic Districts, made at the last Grand Annual Communication, will receive your consideration.

There is no doubt that errors exist among the Craft, which a Lecturer is incompetent to correct. The old regulation, requiring the Grand Master, or his Deputy, to visit every Lodge, has, from the force of circumstances, become a nullity.

The system of Deputy District Grand Masters was once general in the United States, and is still practiced in several States. In some, if not all of which, it works admirably. This authorizes me to conclude that in those jurisdictions which have discarded it, and this among them, its failure to produce the desired result, arose, not so much from an essential defect in the plan, as from the fact that so little interest was, in former years, felt in Masonry, that no plan could succeed. These, however, are different times; great interest is felt in the cause of our institution, and surely one brother at least could be found in every twelve or twenty Lodges, sufficiently zealous and well-informed, to discharge the duties of visiting that number of Lodges, inspecting their work, records, financial, and I may add, their social condition, and reforming errors.

It gives me pleasure to be able to inform you, that the regular interchange of Masonic courtesies has been resumed with the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, though I add, with regret, that some clouds still obscure the horizon of Free Masonry in that State—several Lodges having resigned their charters and taken others from the Body styling itself the "Supreme Council of the 33d Degree." Without meddling with the legality of that Body, so far as its jurisdiction does not interfere with that of the Grand Lodge, a matter that is in dispute, but with which, as Free Masons, we have no concern, it is not to be doubted for a moment that Lodges, which in utter contempt of the Constitution which they themselves assisted in framing, and which declares that "It, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, shall have the exclusive right to constitute Lodges of symbolic Masonry in said State," renounce their allegiance to the Grand Lodge, and put themselves under the standard of an encroaching Body, thereby forfeit their claim to the title of regular Lodges, and the Grand Lodge of Louisiana will be sustained by the Masonic world, in refusing intercourse with them or their members.

For information as to the happy termination of the difficulties which have for some time prevailed in New York, and for other matters of interest, which have come more appropriately under the consideration of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, I refer you to their report.

Such are the principle subjects which I have felt it my duty to present to your consideration. Others will also, no doubt, claim your attention; on all of which, as well as those herewith presented, I doubt not, your deliberations will be regulated, and your decision prompted by a sincere regard for the interests of Masonry. To which end may the Supreme Architect guide our actions, enlighten our minds and control our prejudices.

A petition for a new Lodge at Bay Springs, was presented and referred to the Committee on Lodges under Dispensation.

Bro. J. E. Watts presented the following :

Resolved, That our present Grand Master be requested to exemplify the work in the three Degrees in Masonry, in this Hall, at such time as may suit his convenience, and that of the Grand Lodge during its present session.

Which, on motion, was laid upon the table.

The Grand Lodge was called off until 3 o'clock, P. M.

MONDAY, January 16, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi was called to labor.

The same Past Grand Officers, Past Masters, and Officers and Representatives of Subordinate Lodges, with the following addition, were present :

Pearl, No. 23—J. P. Jones.

Gallatin, No. 25—W. W. Cook, w. m.; J. Hester, J. w.

Macon, No. 40—J. J. Beauchamp, Rep.

Shady Grove, No. 43—J. F. Evans, Rep.

Union, No. 106—Lawson Boothe, w. m.

Summerville, No. 133—J. H. Unthank, proxy, w. m.

Dalton, No. 143—James Watts, proxy, w. m.

The Grand Master announced the following Standing Committees :

On Complaints and Appeals—Bros. Spann, Stokes, Ford, Crawford, Harrison, Bryson and Lester.

On Subordinate Lodges—Bros. Cooper, Rosser, Bodley, D. S. Wood, Campbell, Hillyer, Patrick, James Watts and Beauchamp.

On Unfinished Business—Bros. Speight, Johnson, Roggenburger, Thompson and Lott.

On Accounts—Bros. John Watts, Chapman, Dickens, Goodrum and Kells.

On Lodges under Dispensation—Bros. Gray, Featherston, Phillips, Lackey, Deason, Freeman, Mitchell, Ellis and Scarborough.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, by a permanent resolution, consists of the Grand Secretary as Chairman, Grand Senior and Junior Wardens, and Grand Treasurer.

The Grand Master appointed also two Special Committees :

On Charity—Bros. Kopperl, Deutsch, Kennedy, Hodges and R. S. Jones.

On Education—Bros. Cannon, Nason, Phillips, Morris and George Wood.

On motion of Bro. Lott,

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge will proceed to the election of officers for the ensuing year, on Wednesday morning at ten o'clock.

On motion of Bro. Cooper,

Resolved, That so much of the Grand Master's Address as relates to the subject of dividing the State of Mississippi into a suitable number of Masonic Districts, with a District Deputy Grand Master for each District, together with the report of the Special Committee made on that subject at the last Grand Communication, and all resolutions and documents in relation to that subject,

be referred to a Select Committee of thirteen, with instructions to report a plan to carry into effect the provisions of the second section of the fifth article of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Kopperl, so much of said address as relates to Grand Lecturers, was referred to the same Committee.

The Grand Master appointed the following named brethren on the Committee raised by the foregoing resolution: Bros. Cooper, Stokes, Lackland, Kopperl, Ford, Bowen, Featherston, Lusher, John Watt, Mitchell, J. P. Jones, Boothe and Bodley.

Bro. Cooper offered the following as an amendment to the Constitution:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge deems it expedient to amend the Constitution as follows: After the word "annually," in the second line of the 8th Section, 1st Article, insert "until the year 1860, inclusive."

Which, on motion, was laid upon the table.

The Grand Secretary presented, with his annual account current, the following annual report:

To the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi:

The undersigned, the Grand Secretary, has the honor to present herewith, his accounts current, and to make his annual report of matters appertaining to his office, which have occurred during the past Masonic year.

By the orders of the Grand Lodge, made at the last Grand Annual Communication, he has issued charters to

Centre Hill Lodge, No. 125; Solomon, No. 126; Friendship, No. 127; Tallalooza, No. 128; Patton, No. 129; Alamutcha, No. 130; Fulton, No. 131; Water Valley, No. 132; Summerville, No. 133; Lodi, No. 134; Greenwood, No. 135; Charles Scott, No. 136; Falconer, No. 137; Mellen, No. 138; Castilian, No. 139; Benela, No. 140; Waterford, No. 141; Jacinto, No. 142; Dalton, No. 143; Dabney Lipscomb, No. 144; Loosahoma, No. 145; Jefferson, No. 146; Bay of St. Louis, No. 147; Lamar, No. 148.

And the following Dispensations:

Orizaba, at Orizaba, Tippah county; Centre Ridge, at Centre Ridge, Kemper county; Daleville, at Daleville, Lauderdale county; Pleasant Grove, at Pleasant Grove, Smith county; Pine Bluff, at Pine Bluff, Copiah county; Polar Star, at Mississippi City, Harrison county; Hartford, at Hartford, Chickasaw county; Harrisburg, at Harrisburg, Pontotoc county; George Washington, at Charleston, Tallahatchie county.

Under the orders of the Grand Master, the following dispensations have been issued:

Jeremiah, at Jeremiah, DeSoto county; Cannon, at West Point, Lowndes county; Abbeville, at Abbeville, Pontotoc county; Ellisville, at Ellisville, Jones county; St. John's, at Spring Ridge, Hinds county; Vinton, at Vinton, Lowndes county; Carson, at Carson, Marshall county; Smithville, at Smithville, Monroe county; Auburn, at Auburn, Hinds county; Palmetto, at Palmetto, Chickasaw county.

Benjamin Franklin Lodge, No. 46, at Meadville, owing to some discord among the members, has, by a formal resolution, surrendered its charter, and with it has sent up the record, and an appeal of Bro. James Aikin from a decision of that Lodge, which is herewith presented.

The rooms in the basement story of the Masonic Hall have been under rent during the past year to the same tenant who occupied them the year preceding. In the last report the undersigned mentioned that the rent of one of the rooms had been raised, which has been done. One is rented now at \$15, and the other at \$10 per month.

Agreeably to your directions, three good coats of paint have been placed upon

the wood work of the exterior of the hall; a new fence in the yard, to separate the tenements, and suitable repairs to the outbuildings have been made. A new iron gate has been placed between the hall and the adjacent building, and a slight repair to the pavement made, all at a cost of \$324 04, the bills for which have all been paid.

The total receipts during the past year, from all sources, have been . \$6,511 00
Total expenditures, during same period 4,747 93

Leaving a balance in Grand Treasury of \$1,763 07
To which, add balance in Grand Treasury last year 1,665 00

Total in Grand Treasury 19th January, 1852 \$3,428 07

The excess of the receipts over the estimate made by the undersigned last year, is owing principally to the reduction of the ledger balances against Subordinate Lodges.

The resolution establishing the school fund having been rescinded last year, the above amount of \$3,428 07 remains in the General Treasury, subject to appropriation.

RECEIPTS.—The undersigned, judging from the receipts of last year, and increased of Lodges, estimates the receipts at \$6,800 00
Expenditures for the same period, at about 5,000 00

Leaving a balance of \$1,800 00

Eight hundred and twenty-two 66-100 dollars are due to the Grand Lodge by Subordinate Lodges, and \$29 86 due to Subordinate Lodges, as per ledger balance herewith submitted.

The undersigned submits his account No. 1, of the distribution of the school fund, paid to Subordinate Lodges at the last Grand Annual Communication.

He has yet to settle with eleven Lodges which did not pay their dues in February last, for \$215.

The pro-rata having been fixed upon at 50 cents for each member of the Subordinate Lodges, a balance was left in his hands of \$277 51, which amount he has carried to his new account, to be paid out at the present Communication.

In that account he has charged himself with said \$ 277 51
Received from Grand Treasurer Dicks balance of the school fund 1,728 17

Total for distribution \$2,005 68
Which equally allotted to 4223 members, as returned last year, at 47 cents cash, will give \$1,984 81

Leaving a balance in his hands of \$ 20 87
Which balance, if not otherwise disposed of, will be paid in to the General Treasury.

The undersigned, agreeably to your instructions, caused a Grand Master's jewel to be made of pure gold, and in a style creditable to the artist, and worthy of the occasion, and presented the same to Charles Scott, P. G. M. Copies of the address of the undersigned, upon the presentation, and the answer of Bro. Scott, are submitted herewith.

The undersigned submits the papers and appeal in the case of P. B. Bailey, expelled by Yazoo Lodge, No. 42.

Also, a communication from Jackson Lodge, No. 45, in the State of Alabama, complaining of Malone Lodge, No. 101, of this jurisdiction, for holding Masonic intercourse with our M. Rev. Grand Chaplain, T. W. Caskey, whom Jackson Lodge, No. 45, had suspended, while Bro. Caskey was a resident of, and a member of a Subordinate Lodge in this State, and an officer of this Grand Lodge, for matters which were said to have occurred while Bro. Caskey was a

resident within the jurisdiction of Jackson Lodge, though then, as well afterwards, a member of a Lodge in Mississippi.

The undersigned has also the honor of presenting the report of Bro. R. Nason, of the installment, by him, on the 21st March last, of the officers of Fulton Lodge, No. 131.

The report of Bro. S. A. Orr, of the installation, by him, on the 4th Friday in March last, of the officers of Benela Lodge, No. 140.

The report of Bro. J. W. Speight, of the installation, by him, of the officers of Dalton Lodge, No. 143.

The report of Bro. B. N. Alexander, of the installation of the officers of Looxahoama Lodge, No. 142.

Also, Report of Bro. Jas. Baker, of installation of Water Valley Lodge, No. 132; all Lodges recently chartered.

The W. M. of Grand Gulf Lodge, No. 41, wrote to the undersigned in April last, that by the great fire in that town during that month, the charter of that Lodge had been destroyed. By orders of the Grand Master I issued a suitable certificate under seal, to supply the place of a charter until you should order the issuance of another, that their labors might be uninterrupted.

The dispensation of Cannon Lodge, with a letter from the W. M., Williams Cooper, to the Grand Lodge, is herewith presented.

The undersigned has the honor to present, also, special communications from the Grand Lodges of California and North Carolina, and Union Lodge, U. D., from Texas, at Panama, all asking for pecuniary aid, and two letters from the Grand Master, and one from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

The undersigned is called upon, for the first time since the organization of this Grand Lodge, to report the death of a member of the Grand Lodge, who has died in Natchez, while here in the discharge of his Masonic duties. Bro. D. A. Harrington, a native of New Hampshire, and at the time of his death, W. Master of Coahoma Lodge, No. 104, died in this city on the 11th February last—three days after your adjournment. He was buried with Masonic honors by the brethren in Natchez.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. P. MELLEN, Grand Secretary.

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS.

PRESENTATION OF PAST MASTER'S JEWEL TO P. G. M. CHARLES SCOTT.

R. W. Charles Scott, Past Grand Master of Masons, of the State of Mississippi:

On behalf of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, I have the pleasure of presenting to you this Past Master's Jewel, as a testimonial of the high esteem in which you are held by that Grand Lodge.

It is of gold, and was intended to be an emblem of the purity and incorruptibility of your moral and Masonic character. The circle which surrounds it, is an emblem of eternity, and the beautifully chased leaves upon the circle were intended to represent that crown which, in eternity, it is hoped will be your inheritance as the reward of a well spent life.

When you look back upon the line of your predecessors in office, and recognize a Tooley, a Turner and a Quitman, and other Masonic worthies whose lives have illustrated Freemasonry, and remember that upon you alone this great honor has been conferred by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, this gift will receive from you its due appreciation.

May you live long to wear it. May it act as an incentive to your brethren to imitate your virtues, and may you and they be entitled, when the immortal shall throw off the mortal, to wear "white raiments and crowns of gold."

R. W. BRO. SCOTT'S ANSWER.

R. W. Sir and Brother :

This jewel, which you have been pleased to present to me, in the name and in the behalf of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, I accept with many thanks and grateful feelings. Being deeply gratified and highly honored by such a mark of esteem, I shall keep it as a beautiful memorial of that regard and friendship, which will never be easily broken. I shall wear it with pride and pleasure on all proper occasions, and while it will often remind me of fraternal kindness and brotherly love, I hope my thoughts will be directed to those higher degrees of intelligence and faith, which pious craftsmen will be entitled to receive, when they shall meet on the centre in the great circle of eternity.

Be pleased, R. Wor. Sir, to tender to our brethren of the Grand Lodge, whom you represent, my sincere and heartfelt acknowledgements for this Past Grand Master's jewel, with the assurance of an earnest wish on my part, that they and you may pass safely through the third degree of life, and prove in every way qualified for the resurrection of the just; so that when raised at last by the hand of Omnipotence, each glorified body will reveal a beautiful specimen of work, and every redeemed soul a jewel worth an eternal weight of glory.

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA,
NEW ORLEANS, March 23, 1851. }

To the R. W. Wm. P. Mellen, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi :

SIR AND BRO. : I am instructed by the Grand Master to forward to you, the enclosed extracts from the proceedings of this Grand Lodge, and also a copy of its present Constitution.

And I am also directed by him, since the Committee appointed by the Grand Lodge last year for that purpose, has failed to perform its duty, to request that the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi will excuse a neglect which was unintentional, and had been provided for as far as possible, and to solicit in behalf of this Grand Lodge, a renewal of that fraternal intercourse which formerly existed between our two Grand Lodges, and we trust may hereafter be continued with mutual good understanding and fellowship, to the end of time.

With feelings of brotherly love, I remain your obedient servant.

THEODORE J. WILKINSON,
Grand Secretary, *pro. tem.*

The papers enclosed in the above, were the Articles of Union, etc., of Louisiana Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana.

NEW ORLEANS, May 13, 1851.

To the R. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi :

BRETHREN—I am instructed by the Grand Master to forward for your information, the enclosed documents relating to the schism produced in this jurisdiction by a body in New Orleans, styling itself as the Supreme Council of Sovereign Inspectors General of the 33d Degree of the United States of America, in the Valley of New Orleans. And I am further instructed by the Grand Master, to request your opinion and action upon this intrusion on the territorial jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and to solicit your co-operation in

crushing now and forever, the attempts of this or any similar Body, at any interference with the three symbolic degrees of Free Masonry.

Respectfully and Fraternally yours,

EDWARD BARNETT, Grand Secretary.

GRAND MASTER'S OFFICE,
GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA,
NEW ORLEANS, March 1, 1851. }

To the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIRs AND BROTHERS—Permit me to submit for your consideration the following facts, with certain queries arising from them, which appear to me to involve principles, in the correct understanding of which, the whole fraternity is interested. The Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana dates its origin from the year 1812, and has always been the head and governing power of the Symbolic Lodges of Free and Accepted Masonry in the State. Its present Constitution contains the following provisions :

“It is constituted as a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and in that capacity recognizes nothing but pure Ancient Free Masonry, consisting of the three Symbolic Degrees of Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason, and is forbidden to tolerate any distinctions derogatory to the character in which it is constituted.

It shall have the exclusive right to constitute Lodges of Symbolic Masonry in this State.

Every regular Lodge of Symbolic Masonry in this State, must be held under the Grand Lodge, by Charter or Dispensation.”

This Constitution was ratified and approved by every existing Lodge in the State and promulgated by the Grand Lodge as the Masonic law of its jurisdiction. Since then, three of its constituent Lodges have returned their charters to the Grand Lodge, and have re-organized, by warrants of Constitution from a body in New Orleans, styling itself the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, of the 33d degree of the Scottish Rite. They demand of the Grand Lodge and her constituents, to recognize them as legal Lodges, and their members and initiates as lawful brothers, entitled to visit and communicate.

The questions arising from these facts, to which I would, most respectfully, solicit your answers, are :

First. Can this Council, of the 33d Degree of the Scottish Rite, lawfully constitute Lodges of Symbolic Masonry in this State, within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge?

Second. Will the fact, that they are constituted as Lodges of the Scottish Rite, make any difference?

Third. Are Lodges so constituted entitled to be recognized as legally constituted? Are the members of such Lodges, and those initiated therein, lawful brothers, and entitled to visit and communicate with the Grand Lodge and its Constituent Lodges?

Should you deem it expedient and advisable to afford me the benefit of your experience and superior knowledge in solving the above questions, you will confer a favor that it will give me a great pleasure to reciprocate upon any future occasion, when my humble opinion may be deemed useful. A reply, at your earliest convenience, will confer a still further obligation.

In conclusion, permit me to offer you, Most Worshipful and brothers, the assurance of my highest fraternal regard and consideration.

JOHN GEDGE, Grand Master.

P. S.—The enclosed Circular Letter has been addressed by me to all the Lodges under our jurisdiction.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE GRAND LODGE OF LOUISIANA, ETC.

[No. 1.]

Be it Resolved, By the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, in Grand Communication assembled: That it cannot constitutionally recognize any Lodge of Symbolic Free Masonry, in this State, as a legal Lodge, which is not held under, and by virtue of her authority.

Be it Resolved, That the members of this Grand Lodge, and of her constituent Lodges, are forbidden to hold Masonic communication with any Lodge of Symbolic Free Masonry in this State, not constituted by and under the authority of this Grand Lodge, or with the members and initiates of such Lodges.

[No. 2.]

SECRETARY GENERAL'S OFFICE,
SUPREME COUNCIL OF THE 33^d SO. JURISDICTION, U. S. A. }
GRAND EAST OF CHARLESTON, S. C., April 18, 5851. }

To M. W. J. Gedge:

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER—Your printed circular of the 1st March, was laid before the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree, sitting at this place; and, I have been directed to make the following reply to your several questions:

First. The Supreme Councils of the Thirty-third Degree, legally existing in this country, have always abstained from constituting Symbolic Lodges in the United States, or in any way interfering with their brethren of the York Rite. But, especially, the body at New Orleans, calling itself a Supreme Council, being spurious and illegal, cannot under any circumstances, "lawfully constitute Lodges of Symbolic Masonry."

Second. The fact that "they are constituted as Lodges of the Scottish Rite," will not, certainly, so far as it respects the body at New Orleans, make any difference.

Third. Masons made in Symbolic Lodges, working under constitutions granted by the body at New Orleans, would not be recognized by this Supreme Council as "lawful brothers," nor would the Lodge so constituted, be recognized as legally constituted. The latter part of the third question, referring to the action of Grand Lodges in the York Rite, it is not the province of this Council to answer.

By order of the Supreme Council.

I remain, dear Sir, fraternally,

ALBERT G. MACKEY, Secretary General,
H. E. in the Sup. Council, 33d So. Jurisdiction, U. S. A.

[No. 3.]

To the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, John Gedge, Esq.

Universi Terrarum Orbis Architectonis per Gloriam Ingentis. Deus meumque Jus.

ORDO AB CHAO.

From the East of the Supreme Grand Council of the M. P. Sovereigns Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-third Degree, under the C. C. of the Zenith, near the B. B., answering to 40° 42' 40", N. L., and 2° 51' 0", E. L., meridian of Washington City.

To our illustrious, most valiant and Sublime Princes of the Royal Secret Knights of K—H, illustrious Princes and Knights, Grand, Ineffable and, Sublime, Free and Accepted Masons of all Degrees, Ancient and Modern, over the surface of the two Hemispheres :

*To all to whom these letters may come, greeting :—*HEALTH, STABILITY, POWER, —*Know ye*, That we, the undersigned, Most Puissant Sovereign, Grand Inspectors General, lawfully and constitutionally established at our Grand East, the city of New York, in Supreme Grand Council of the thirty-third Degree, for the Northern Masonic District and Jurisdiction of the United States of North America, and duly congregated this 29th day of Ylar, A. Hm. 5608, A. LIBis. 2384, which corresponds to the first day of June, 1848, of the Christian Era, and A. Ois. 730— and A. Mm. 534, at our Grand Council Chamber, a Sacred Asylum, where reign UNION, CONTENTMENT, WISDOM.

Decree and order, that the following official declaration be published for the information and government of all true and enlightened brethren wherever dispersed :

That this Supreme Grand Council deems it proper and advisable to define its position and the platform on which it now stands and has stood ever since its foundations were first laid, proclaimed and recognized in the years 5767, 5797, 5806, 5808 and 5813.

That it constitutionally claims Masonic Jurisdiction over all the northern, north-western and north-eastern parts of the United States of America, their territories and dependencies, as the Supreme Tribunal for the "Grand, Ineffable and Sublime Degree—Ancient and Accepted Rite" of the thirty-third and last degree. But that in deference to the Constitutions of "the York rite" practised in this country, it waives its rights and privileges so far as they relate to the first three degrees of "Ancient Craft Masonry," which long before the establishment of a Supreme Grand Council in this Hemisphere, were under the control of Symbolic Grand Lodges. But this Supreme Grand Council does explicitly claim the exclusive right, natural, lawful and constitutional, to confer, establish and govern the following Degrees, which now are, and always have been, under the government of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General, or of bodies deriving authority from a legal Supreme Grand Council of the thirty-third and last Degree, to-wit :

4th, Secret Master ; 5th, Perfect Master ; 6th, Intimate Secretary ; 7th, Provost and Judge ; 8th, Intendant of the Buildings ; 9th, Elected of Nine ; 10th, Elected of Fifteen ; 11th, Sublime Knight Elected ; 12th, Grand Master Architect ; 13th, Royal Arch of Solomon ; 14th, Grand Elect Perfect and Sublime Mason ; 15th, Knight of the East or Sword ; 16th, Prince of Jerusalem ; 17th, Knight of the East and West ; 18th, Sovereign Prince Rose Croix of H—R—D—M— ; 19th, Grand Pontiff ; 20th, Grand Master of all Symbolic Lodges ; 21st, Patriarch Noachite ; 22d, Prince of Libanus ; 23d, Chief of the Tabernacle ; 24th, Prince of the Tabernacle ; 25th, Knight of the Brazen Serpent ; 26th, Prince of Mercy ; 27th, Commander of the Temple ; 28th, Knight of the Sun ; 29th, Patriarch of the Crusades ; 30th, Grand Elect Knight K—H ; 31st, Grand Inspector Inquisitor Commander ; 32d, Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret ; 33d and last Degree, (official,) Sovereign Grand Inspector General.

That this Supreme Grand Council and the various Bodies under charters, admit no one into its aforesaid degrees, and require no other qualifications in candidates, except that they be "good men and true," and have been regularly initiated into Ancient Craft Masonry, by some regular legal Ancient York Master Mason's Lodge, and are at the same time either officers or active members of such a Lodge.

Moreover, as conservators pledged to preserve the "Ancient and Accepted Rite of the thirty-third and last Degree," pure and inviolate, and free from all unlawful and spurious intermixture of associations, this Supreme Grand Council feels itself constrained most unequivocally to renew its former declaration, and solemnly denounce as unlawful and unconstitutional, and protest

against the acts and protensions of all other Bodies, under whatever name or title they may exist, claiming to exercise control or authority over the ancient and accepted rite of the thirty-third degree; cautioning all brethren, wherever dispersed over the two Hemispheres, that accumulation of rites, whether under the designation of councils, colleges, or any other denomination whatever, is an anomaly in Free Masonry, fraught with confusion, mischief and danger to the whole Masonic Family, and which never can receive the sanction of this Supreme Grand Council, nor the approval of any intelligent Body of Masons sincerely devoted to the purity, happiness and prosperity of our well-beloved, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masonry.

Deus meumque Jus.

J. J. J. GOURGAS,
M. P. Sov. Gr. Commander 33d *ad ritam*.
EDWARD A. RAYMOND,
Ill. Treasurer General of the H. E.
CHARLES W. MOORE,
Ill. Secretary General of the H. E.
KILLIAN H. VAN RENSSELAER,
Ill. Master of Ceremonies.
JOHN CHRISTIE,
Ill. Captain of the L. G.
ARCHIBALD BULL,
Sov. Gr. Inspector General, 33d.
GILES F. YATES,
M. I. Insp. Lieut. Gr. Commander, 33d.

[No. 4.]

NEW YORK, April 26, 1851.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BROTHER—You will perceive by the annexed circulars, that the only lawful constitutional Supreme Grand Council of the 33d Ancient and Accepted Rite (commonly called Scottish,) for the Northern Jurisdiction, U. S. A., has always studiously abstained from any interference whatever with the rights of Grand Lodges.

Our Thrice Ill. Sister, the Supreme Grand Council of 33d, etc., at their Grand East Charleston, S. C., for the Southern Jurisdiction, U. S. A., has also always been actuated by the same principles. These facts you may easily learn in all their details from our Ill. Brothers, Charles W. Moore, of Boston, Grand Secretary for the North, and Albert G. Mackey, M. D., at Charleston, S. C., Grand Secretary for the South. Also by referring to years back to the Masonic Magazines, of which they are editors.

As to a pretended Supreme Grand Council of 33d, which has troubled you for years past at New Orleans, I can say that it has frequently been denounced (by us, the only two aforesaid Legitimate Supreme Grand Councils which can constitutionally exist for the U. S. of A.,) as being spurious and clandestine.

* * * * *

I remain, dear sir and brother, yours most respectfully and Fraternally,
J. J. J. GOURGAS.

T.: T.: G.: O.: T.: G.: A.: O.: T.: U.:

ORDO AB CHAO.

DEUS MEUMQUE JUS.

From the East of the Supreme Council of the SS.: GG.: II.: GG.: of the

33d and last degree of the Free, Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite, under the C.: C.: of the Zenith, answering to the 30° N. L. and 44° W. L., Meridian of Washington City, this 27th day of the third month, *Siran* of the M.: year 5851.

To the Illustrious SS.: GG.: II.: GG.: S.: PP.: of the R.: S.: Knights K.: D.: S.: PP.: R.: †.: and all other KK.: PP.: and BB.: of all degrees from the 1st to 33d.: of the Free, Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite, and to all our Br.: Masons of other Rites over the surface of the Globe.

• HEALTH—STABILITY—POWER.

Know ye, that under our seal and the signature of our Gd.: Ch.: and Secretary, we do hereby solemnly certify to the following statements of facts and considerations, the same being now inscribed *ad perpetuam rei memoriam* in the Archives of our sacred asylum where reign

UNION, CONTENTMENT, WISDOM.

A Grand Consistory of the 33d.: degree was entrusted with the administration of Free, Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite in the State of Louisiana, and administered the same up to the year 1839.

At that time a competent number of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the 33d degree, constituted a Supreme Council in and for said State, and all such others of the American Union and foreign provinces of North America, who had none, and might desire either to work under its jurisdiction through regularly constituted Grand Consistories, or to have through the same, a sufficient number of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General duly initiated for the purpose of constituting, within their respective territorial limits, their respective Supreme Councils.

Once constituted, the Supreme Council of this Valley made their existence known to the Grand Orient of France in its Supreme Council, with request to acknowledge them, and by so doing to put them in immediate correspondence with all the regular Supreme Councils of the globe with which it corresponds.

On the 14th of April, 1843, the Grand Orient of France, after due deliberation and by a special resolution, acknowledged our Supreme Council as regular and fully qualified to control and administer the 33d degrees of the Free, Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rites in this Valley.

Since that time, an active correspondence has existed between us and that Sovereign Body, and we have never ceased to fraternize with all the Supreme Councils and other Sovereign Masonic Bodies with which it corresponds—that is to say, with all the Masonic authorities of the Globe, except, perhaps, with the actual Grand Lodge of London, whose views in Free Masonry seem to differ from the views of almost all the Masons of the world, and for this reason are, as we understand, disapproved even by a large number of our English BB.:.

Besides the acknowledgment in fact of our authority by the regular Supreme Councils and other Grand Easts of the Globe, it is also fully established by the 3d Prag. of the 5th Article of the Constitutions of 1786, given by Frederick the Great, each Sovereign and independent State or province of North America, being by virtue of the same entitled to one Supreme Council at least.

Now it is to be observed that we are in the United States of America, the only regular Supreme Council at present in existence; the Supreme Council sitting, as they pretend, in the City of New York, having expressly, by their circular dated June 1st, 1848, waived their rights and privileges so far as they relate to the first three degrees, in deference to the Constitutions of the York Rite—and the Supreme Council sitting, as they pretend, in the City of Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, having, by their communication dated April 18th, 1851, expressly declared that they have always abstained from constituting Symbolic Lodges in the United States, and therefore given up the first class of our Masonic degrees, contrary to Article II, of the Constitutions of 1761, and to Article VI, of the Constitutions of 1786, which they both admit to

be the necessary and only foundation and rule of the Free Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite.

We dispute to neither of these two States their respective right to a Supreme Council ; but we maintain that at present they have none—that they are no more advanced than any other State of the Union who never have had any, and that we are consequently and *de facto*, the only legal and regular Supreme Council now existing in North America.

However, it is in consequence of our fidelity to the Constitutions and General Statutes of the Free Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite, that we are now exposed to the most unbecoming attacks of certain Masons of the York Rite in this State, and of those two pretended Supreme Councils, who publicly avow that so far as the first three degrees are concerned, they are neither more nor less than York Masons, and boldly assume to confer the high degrees of our sublime Rite, upon the degrees of another, and thus to mix and confound doctrines and principles which are essentially distinct and separate.

Up to the year 1833, the Grand Consistory of the Valley, true to our Constitutions and Statutes, maintained the privileges of our Rite, and had Symbolic Lodges under their jurisdiction, though the actual Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has thought proper to let it be written and published under his own signature, that no other Masonic authority but that of the Grand Lodge of this State had ever constituted and administered Symbolic Lodges therein.

During that same year, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana constituted in its bosom a Symbolic Chamber of the Scotch Rite, and proposed to the Grand Consistory a Concordate, by virtue of which its Symbolic Lodges should become a part of said Grand Lodge, on the express condition that they would be administered by said Symbolic Chamber.

The Grand Consistory, agreeably to Article VII, of the Constitution of 1786, consented thereto, and since that time, up to this day, the greatest harmony prevailed among the brethren of the respective Rites in our State.

In 1850, a Convention of the Symbolic Lodges of Louisiana was called. The Scotch Lodges sent to the same their respective delegates. A Constitution was framed, by which the Grand Lodge was henceforth to constitute no other Lodges than of Free Ancient and Accepted Masons.

Our brethren of the Scotch Rite, sincerely believing that this particularity in the enactment meant, on the part of the Masons there assembled, a determination to respect the rights and privileges of the Free Ancient and Accepted Scotch Masons, as well as those of the Free Ancient and Accepted York Masons, voted for that Constitution.

But on their being apprised that they had been led astray—that the Symbolic Chamber, on which they had to depend, had been destroyed in the bosom of the Grand Lodge—that there was to be there either the most monstrous confusion of all the Masonic Rites, or that their own was to be annihilated for the advantage of another, they called upon this Supreme Council, who decided that the Grand Lodge had broken the Concordate made with the Grand Consistory.

Consequently, the Lodges of the true Free Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite sent back the Charters, which they had from the Grand Lodge, and passed again under our jurisdiction.

Our decision in this matter has been made a text for insidious and unbrotherly remarks from certain York Masons in this East ; but it was founded upon a special communication of the Grand Lodge to this Supreme Council, dated March 5th, 1850, by which it informed us that it would henceforth constitute and administer no other Symbolic Lodges than of Free Ancient and Accepted Masons.

We waited to answer the same until the action of the Grand Lodge would show what it meant by such an intricate communication ; and it was but after we had clearly ascertained, from its very Constitution, and the destruction of the Symbolic Chamber of the Scotch Rite in its bosom, that it was its intention to do away with the first three degrees of the Scotch Rite, that we passed our

resolutions dated September 25th, 1850, and resumed, according to the above-mentioned decision, our authority over the said degrees—and that the Symbolic Lodges of our Rite returned their charters to the Grand Lodge, and came back, as above said, under our jurisdiction.

These being the facts, we called a meeting of all the Scotch Masons in this East, and after having taken with us cognizance of our Constitutions and Statutes, and all of the documents relating to the controversy now pending, as well as of said facts, they unanimously passed the following resolution: Be it

Resolved, By this General Assembly of the Free Ancient and Accepted Scotch Masons, who have remained true to their oaths as such, and desire to preserve the purity of their Rite, that the statements which have appeared under the signature of the actual Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, relative to the past and present condition of Masonry in this State, are insidious and untrue; and that it is the wish of this Assembly that the Supreme Council publish, together with this resolution, a statement of facts, and send a copy of both to all the Masonic authorities of the globe.

We can but approve of this act of loyalty of our brethren of the Scotch Rite.

It is our intention and will, firmly to adhere to our Constitutions, Statutes, rights and privileges.

Any insult, attack, and denunciation of the kind expressed by the *soi-disant* Supreme Councils of New York and Charleston, are of little consequence, because there is no Mason or Masonic body, who ever will consider their mode of proceeding as an incontrovertible proof of their pretensions. Let them show that Art. 2, of the Constitutions of 1762, paragraph 3d, of Art. 5, and Art. 6, of the Constitutions of 1786, are a mere invention, and that they both were by virtue of any article or paragraph of the same, at liberty to do away with the first three degrees of our Rite, to break down this very foundation of our Order, to give up its elementary doctrine, and to mix and confound, without ceasing themselves to exist, the Free Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite, of which they boast to be the guardians and rulers, with any other Rite.

We recognize and approve all the Rites recognized and approved. We freely and fraternally open the doors of our Lodges to those who follow either of them. We are at any time, for the sake of harmony, ready to authorize, according to Article 6, of the Constitution of 1786, the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana to constitute and administer Symbolic Lodges of the Free Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite, provided it be through a Symbolic Chamber of the same, duly constituted in its bosom. But as long as it refuses to have said Chamber, and pretends either to mix the Rites, or favor one of them to the prejudice of another, we cannot, we will not grant it such an authorization; and we consider, that by so adhering to the principles and tenets of our Rite, we cannot fail obtaining the approbation of every honest Mason and Masonic authority, for in spite of any measure from any other Masonic authority of any other Rite, we are Free Ancient and Accepted Masons. All the Grand Lodges of the world, with the exception of one or two, approved the course of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, in reference to a spurious Grand Lodge, composed in this State by Lodges which derived their authority from the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi. And what was that course? The acknowledgement of all Rites of Freemasonry, and the administration of each of them separately through their respective Symbolical Chamber in its bosom.

It is true that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has since been so magnanimous as to open its doors to the Masons belonging to those spurious Lodges, after they have avowed their wrong, and sworn to it a sincere obedience; and it is also true that the Mason who presided in the spurious Grand Lodge which sprung from them, presides now in the Grand Lodge of the State, and pretends to destroy our Rite through the very authority which has recognized it. But it is neither in his power, nor in that of any one else, to erase our Order and name from the Masonic table, because no Mason or Masonic authority can approve

of such a measure, without denying at the same time the rights of all the Masons of Continental Europe, and ceasing to be a member of the universal fraternity.

The Rites known in that immense part of the world and South America, are the Free Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite, and the French, or Modern Rite. How are you to excommunicate them here, without breaking off at the same time with all those who profess them elsewhere, and are therefore bound to support them?

The actual Grand Master of the Grand Lodge is so well aware of that fact, that in order to meet the opposition from that side, he has not hesitated to say that in matters of Freemasonry, Continental Europe is a hot-bed of innovation.

We leave to our brethren of that country to appreciate his views and meaning when he thus attacks and insults them, and we ask our brethren of North and South America whether they are ready to renounce every fraternity with the mass of their European Brethren, for the purpose of espousing his notions in Freemasonry?

On the day our brethren of the United States are ready to investigate the true origin, not of Fellow Craft, but of Freemasonry, and to have the matter honestly discussed, we doubt not they will all adhere to our doctrines and principles; for, instead of securing the despotic sway of kingly and ecclesiastical powers which Masonry, as understood by a few exalted reformers of the same in England, has for object to maintain, they lead to civil and Christian liberty, and secure the enjoyment of both.

To any person versed in the study and history of Freemasonry, it is clear that France, Spain, Italy and Germany owe their respective progress to the influence of the Free Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite.

It was, in consequence of the preceding facts and considerations, that this Supreme Council instructed the undersigned, their Chancellor and Secretary, to address this communication to all the Masonic authorities throughout the world, and to request an expression of their opinion and their Masonic action upon the matter; and also to request of your body, should you not already have done so, to open a regular correspondence with our Supreme Council, and to inscribe us upon the list of your correspondents, referring you to the action heretofore taken with regard to us by the Grand Orient of France.

By mandate of the Supreme Council.

G. C. G. S. O. F. H. E.

CIRCULAR ADDRESS.

To the M. W. Grand Master, Wardens, and Brothers of the Grand Lodges of the United States and of Europe, and to the W. Masters, Officers and Brethren of the Subordinate Lodges under their respective jurisdictions:

At the Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the State of California, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Several of the Lodges under this jurisdiction, and the member^s thereof, by their great liberality to strange brothers, have become indebted for greater amounts than they are able to pay, therefore,

Resolved, That a Committee of Seven be appointed to address a circular to other Grand and Subordinate Lodges, setting forth the amount and nature of the embarrassments aforesaid, and for what causes incurred, which circular shall be published with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

The undersigned were appointed that Committee, and in the discharge of their duties, beg your indulgence to state: That at an early period in the history of the immense immigration into this new country from every State in the

Union, and from every part of Europe, it was found that vast numbers came without any adequate knowledge of the nature or extent of the wants to which they would become exposed, in the prosecution of the mining enterprises which they came to pursue, as well as without any idea of the causes which have been found to operate in breaking down their health and constitutions. They therefore came most lamentably unsupplied with any other means of providing for their necessities than their capacities for labor. It therefore happened in the autumn of 1849, and the succeeding winter, that large numbers were compelled to leave the mining districts, and repaired to Sacramento City for medical advice, and for attendance in sickness. As a considerable number of such sick and destitute persons were members of the Masonic Fraternity, they naturally and of right made their condition known to their brethren, then established at that place.

Under a most generous impulse, and a lively sense of their obligations, the brethren undertook to institute a sanitary establishment, that should supply the place of a hospital. At that time, municipal governments had not been organized, and public affairs were conducted chiefly on the voluntary principle. So it was in the case of the health establishment set up by the Masons. They found, however, that the demands upon them were, in the course of a few months increased to an extent greater than they had anticipated, and greater than their own means, and the contributions which they could collect, would enable them to meet. They could not, however, go back, nor could they abandon the sufferers whom they had been obliged to receive, and whose numbers greatly multiplied by the distress caused by the freshet which swept over the city in the winter of 1849 and '50. As a consequence they made themselves liable for the payment of bills, the payment of which would reduce some of them to absolute indigence. They raised and paid, for the purposes above stated, over thirty-two thousand dollars, and are now in arrears about fourteen thousand dollars.

For that, they feel justified in calling upon the Grand and Subordinate Lodges of the Fraternity, to aid in relieving them. No record has been kept by which it can be known what exact amount any one sufferer received, belonging to any particular Lodge, of all that have been provided for. But this is certain, no sick, destitute and suffering brother has been permitted to suffer or die in their midst, uncared for. The noble generosity and disinterestedness with which a few Masons in one of our new cities, have contributed so largely to the wants of the brethren coming in upon them from all parts of the civilized world, has afforded a brilliant illustration to the world of the excellence and strength of our principles, and has been most effective in commending our Order to the respect of those who are not of us. Inasmuch as the effort has produced a common good, and its benefits have reached members of such a great number of Lodges, it seems but right that the existing pecuniary obligations should be discharged by a common effort of Masons.

This circular is therefore designed to appeal to the several Subordinate Lodges for a contribution from each, of five to ten dollars, or more, as their circumstances shall warrant; to be forwarded through the Secretaries of their respective Grand Lodges, to be concentrated in the hands of the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of New York, in New York City, and by him transmitted to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of California, or through any more direct channel, as may be convenient.

Brothers, we do not think we ask too much, nor can we doubt you will give a prompt response to this appeal in behalf of those noble few, who have become embarrassed by their devotion to those who have acquired in your Lodges, the right to call upon their brethren on these western shores.

Respectfully and fraternally,

JOHN A. TUTT,
T. A. THOMAS,
J. D. STEVENSON,
B. JENNINGS,

L. STOWELL,
E. J. WILLIS,
P. A. BRINSMADE,
Committee.

The Grand Secretary submitted a detailed statement of receipts from Lodges, amounting to \$6511.

The Grand Treasurer's account, after all disbursements, showed a cash balance on hand of \$3428 07. The Grand Lodge School Fund available for distribution, \$1728 17.

The report and account of Grand Secretary, and the account of Grand Treasurer, were referred to the appropriate Committees.

Bro. Jack offered the following :

Resolved, That in consideration of the loss sustained by Coleman Lodge, No. 29, in having its Lodge furniture and jewels destroyed by fire, the dues from said Lodge for the past year be refunded.

Which was referred to Committee on Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. Lott,

Resolved, That a Grand Master's jewel be presented by this Grand Lodge to Grand Master, Wm. H. Stevens.

On motion of Bro. Cooper,

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary be directed to carry the foregoing resolution into effect.

Bro. Cothran presented the appeal of A. C. Rose, from Greenwood Lodge, No. 135.

Bro. Wiley presented appeal of Winston Banks, from Leake Lodge, No. 17.

Bro. Kopperl presented the appeal of John Deans, from DeWitt Clinton Lodge, No. 84.

Bro. J. J. Beauchamp presented the appeal of J. H. McClenahan, from Macon Lodge, No. 40.

The Grand Secretary presented the complaint of Oakland Lodge, No. 82, against George Washington Lodge, for infringing jurisdiction.

Also the memorial of Lamar Lodge, No. 148, relative to Maj. R. Puckett.

All of which were referred to Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

On motion of Bro. Patrick,

Resolved, That so much of the Grand Secretary's report, as relates to the case of Grand Chaplain, be referred to special committee of three.

Bros. John Watts, Patrick and Lott, were appointed to fill said committee.

On motion of Bro. Patrick,

Resolved, That a duplicate charter issue to Grand Gulf Lodge, 41, free of charge, the charter of said Lodge having been destroyed by fire.

On motion of Bro. Mitchell,

Resolved, That so much of the Grand Secretary's report, as relates to the death of Bro. D. A. Harrington, deceased, be referred to a select committee of three.

The chair appointed Bros. Woodward, J. A. McMillan, and H. C. Robinson.

On motion of Bro. James Watts,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary issue free of charge, a duplicate charter to Coleman Lodge, No. 29, the old charter having been burned by the late fire in Brandon.

On motion of Rev. Bro. Caskey, so much of the Grand Secretary's report as relates to Cannon Lodge, was referred to a committee of three.

The chair appointed on said committee, Bros. Caskey, Speight and Cannon.

Bro. J. P. Jones presented certain resolutions of Silas Brown Lodge, No. 65, which, on motion, were laid upon the table.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

TUESDAY, January 20, 1852, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi met pursuant to adjournment.

Attendance as on yesterday, with the following named in addition :

Olive Branch, No. 34—Joshua Burkhalter, w. m.
Mississippi, No. 56—F. L. Mattingly, proxy, w. m.
Prairie, No. 87—H. L. Hill, w. m.
United Friends, No. 91—R. J. Fitz, w. m.; C. R. Bass, s. w.
Utica, No. 98—Isaac Griffith, proxy, w. m.
Wayne, No. 102—Benj. Estes, w. m.
Magnolia, No. 120—J. F. Hanley, s. w.
Waterford, No. 141—S. M. Allen, proxy, w. m.
Bay of St. Louis, No. 147—C. Lewis, w. m.

Bro. Speight offered the following :

Resolved, That Simon C. Muldrow, a citizen of Oktibbeha county, residing within the jurisdiction of Abert Lodge, No. 89, be relieved from the sentence of expulsion, some time since passed upon him by said Lodge; and that he be restored to all the rights and privileges of a Master Mason.

On motion of Bro. Unthank,

Resolved, That the resolution adopted yesterday, fixing on Wednesday at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the election of Grand Officers, be reconsidered, and that said election be proceeded with this day at 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Master addressed the Grand Lodge as follows, declining to accept of the Jewel, which was ordered to be presented to him by the Grand Lodge :
Brethren of the Grand Lodge :

I have no language adequate to convey to you my sentiments of gratitude for the kindness shown me, by your resolution, requiring the Grand Secretary to procure a Past Master's jewel, to be presented to me.

Such evidences of the regard and esteem of my brethren, I shall ever hold in cherished remembrance; at the same time, I must respectfully decline its acceptance; and in so doing, I have no fears that my motives will be misunderstood by you.

I am not sensible of anything I have done for the benefit of Masonry, sufficiently meritorious to deserve such a mark of distinction. The attachment I have ever felt for the institution, and as I trust have ever manifested, has been amply remunerated by the honors you have conferred upon me; and if I needed any other evidence that that attachment was properly appreciated by you, it is contained in the resolution of yesterday, which I now desire may be accompanied by this response from me.

WM. H. STEVENS.

On motion of Bro. Kopperl,

Resolved, That the address of the Grand Master, declining the jewel voted him by this Grand Lodge, be published with the proceedings of this Grand Lodge.

The Rev. Bro. Caskey presented the following report of the special committee on Cannon Lodge :

The special committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Secretary's report as relates to Cannon Lodge, U. D., and the difficulties therein existing, have had the same under consideration, and after a careful examination of the papers, they find that the annual return of said Lodge, together with a copy of its proceedings, sent to this Grand Lodge, are regular and in proper form, with the exception that they are not signed by the Worshipful Master, Williams Cooper. Your committee are unable to perceive, from the lights before them, why the Worshipful Master should not have signed the return and

proceedings of said Lodge in the usual form, and they are satisfied from the evidence adduced before them, that he has wantonly violated his duty, and totally disregarded his obligations as the Master of a Lodge, in failing to send up his returns and proceedings duly authenticated. Your committee have also examined the By-Laws of said Lodge, and find them consistent with the Constitution of the Grand Lodge and General Regulations of the Order, and in consideration of all the facts to us presented, we recommend that a charter be granted to said Lodge to Joseph T. Randolph as Worshipful Master; James H. Westbrook, as Senior Warden; and John W. Stone, as Junior Warden.

In view of the express desire of the officers and members of said Lodge, your committee would further recommend that said Lodge be hereafter held at Church Hill, in Lowndes county, where they are now preparing a suitable room.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. W. CASKEY, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Gray presented the following, which was laid over :

QUESTION 1. Can a Past Master, or any member of the Lodge, open the Lodge and transact business, in the absence of the Master, and Senior and Junior Wardens?

QUES. 2. Can the Senior and Junior Wardens, in the absence of the Master, confer degrees, unless a Past Master is present to assist them in their duties?

Bro. Lewis presented a memorial from Bay of St. Louis Lodge, No. 147, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Charity.

Bro. Dickens presented a memorial from Belmont Lodge, No. 90, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Charity, together with the following preamble and resolution offered by him :

WHEREAS, Belmont Lodge, No. 90, having become involved in pecuniary difficulties, from the many demands upon her charities, and also from the faithful performance of a sacred duty to a departed brother; therefore,

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars be appropriated, out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, for her relief.

Bro. McCreight offered a resolution, relative to the By-Laws of Benela Lodge, No. 140.

Bro. Steele offered a resolution, relative to the By-Laws of Lafayette Lodge, No. 53.

Bro. J. A. McMillan offered a resolution, relative to the By-Laws of Patton Lodge, No. 129.

Bro. Burkhalter offered a resolution, relative to the By-Laws of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34.

The Grand Secretary offered a resolution, relative to the By-Laws and dues of Asylum Lodge, No. 63, and an application of Lamar Lodge, No. 148, for remission of dues.

Bro. Fitzgerald, amendments to By-Laws of Ebenezer Lodge, No. 76.

Bro. Johnson, amendments to By-Laws of Oak Ridge Lodge, No. 123.

Bro. Hanley, amendments to By-Laws of Magnolia Lodge, No. 120.

Bro. Cook, amendments to By-Laws of Gallatin Lodge, No. 25.

The Grand Secretary presented amendments to By-Laws of Farmington Lodge, No. 116; of Dabney Lipscomb, No. 144; and of Mt. Moriah, No. 86.

Bro. Allen presented amendments to By-Laws of Waterford Lodge, No. 141.

Bro. Fritz presented amendments to By-Laws of United Friends Lodge, No. 91.

Bro. Thompson presented amendments to By-Laws of Bovina Lodge, No. 112. All of which were referred to the Committee on Subordinate Lodges.
The Grand Lodge then adjourned till 3 o'clock, P. M.

TUESDAY, January 20, 1852, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi met pursuant to adjournment. Same members present as in the morning, with the addition of Thomas Hinds Lodge, No. 58—H. M. Youngblood, proxy, W. M.
The Grand Lodge took up the order of the day, being the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year, which resulted as follows :

M. W. JAMES M. HOWRY.....Oxford.....Grand Master.
R. W. BARTON EVANS.....Bethel.....Grand Senior Warden.
CHARLES KOPPERL.....Vaiden.....Grand Junior Warden.

Whereupon the Grand Lodge, on motion, adjourned until 7 o'clock, P. M., postponing the election of the other Officers until 10 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

TUESDAY, January 20, 1852, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi met pursuant to adjournment, Bro. Speight presented the following report of the Committee on Unfinished Business :

The Committee on Unfinished Business beg leave to report, that upon an examination of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge at the last Grand Annual Communication, they find the following business yet unfinished, viz :

Page 81, printed proceedings, an amendment proposed to the 3d Article of the Constitution, so as to read as follows :

"SEC. 4. Every Subordinate Lodge shall be represented in the Grand Lodge by its Officers, Representatives or the proxies of its Masters and Wardens, who must be Master Masons, and members of the Lodge which they represent, and which appointment, whether of representative or proxy, must be certified by the Secretary, and the seal of the Lodge affixed thereto."

Page 50, printed proceedings, an amendment to the Constitution, relative to the removal of the Grand Lodge.

Page 30, relative to the appointment of certain Grand Officers, instead of electing them.

Page 83, printed proceedings, report of Committee on Work.

All of which requires the attention and action of this Grand Lodge.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. SPEIGHT, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Burkhalter offered the following :

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge restore George D. Patterson, a citizen of Covington county, residing under the jurisdiction of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, who was expelled from St. Albans Lodge, No. 60, for unmasonic conduct, to the benefits and privileges of a Master Mason.

On motion, the resolution was referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

On motion, the Grand Lodge was called off until to-morrow at 9 o'clock, A. M., to give an opportunity for the Committee on Work to exemplify the Work as agreed upon by the Committee.

WEDNESDAY, January 21, 1852, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi met pursuant to adjournment. The members the same, with the addition of James Priestly, W. M. Canton Lodge, No. 28.

Bro. John Watts presented the following report of Committee on Accounts:

The Committee on Accounts beg leave to report that they have had under consideration the various matters of account embraced in the Annual Reports of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary. The committee take great pleasure in stating to the Grand Lodge that said reports are correct, and properly kept, and the accounts fully sustained by the proper vouchers. All of which fully appears from the papers on file, and presented to the committee for their examination.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOHN WATTS, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Watts presented the report of special committee on the case of Rev. T. W. Caskey, Grand Chaplain:

The committee to whom was referred the subject matter of complaint between Jackson Lodge, No. 45, in the State of Alabama, and T. W. Caskey, report that they have spent some time in the investigation of the subject referred to them, and find that the same is not entirely free from doubt upon the subject of jurisdiction.

It appears from the papers before us, that Bro. T. W. Caskey was a member of a Lodge in the State of Mississippi; that he removed from Mississippi to Alabama, near Gainesville, at which place Jackson Lodge, No. 45 was located, and a considerable distance from the Lodge of his membership. During the time he thus lived near Jackson Lodge, No. 45, he is charged with certain un-masonic conduct, but before he received any notice of the charges, he removed again to the State of Mississippi, and joined another Lodge in the State of Mississippi. Notice was then given him of the pendency of the charges against him in Jackson Lodge, No. 45, in the State of Alabama. Bro. T. W. Caskey refused or neglected to attend the trial, and assigned no reason to the Jackson Lodge, No. 45, in Alabama, for not attending and answering to said charges; he was therefore suspended by said Lodge. Bro. T. W. Caskey and the Lodge of which he is now a member, contend that the Lodge in Alabama had no jurisdiction over his case, he being a member of a Lodge in Mississippi.

The committee consider this an important subject for consideration of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, as to its jurisdiction. The committee are of the opinion, however, that the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi has no jurisdiction over the matter; that although Bro. T. W. Caskey was a member of a Lodge in Mississippi, if he removed to Alabama, and near a Lodge in that State, that he was amenable to that Lodge, and subject to be there charged and

tried for unmasonic conduct, committed within the jurisdiction of the Lodge where he resided at the time he is charged with the unmasonic conduct.

The Committee would therefore offer the following resolution, to be adopted by this Grand Lodge:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of Mississippi has no jurisdiction over the subject matter of the charges of Jackson Lodge, No. 45, in the State of Alabama, against Bro. T. W. Caskey, and that he is subject to the jurisdiction of Jackson Lodge, No. 45, in Alabama, for any unmasonic conduct committed during his residence within the jurisdiction of that State.

JOHN WATTS,
WM. H. LOTT,
Majority of Committee.

Bro. Patrick presented the following minority report of special committee on case of Rev. T. W. Caskey:

The undersigned, a minority of the committee appointed to consider that part of the report of the Grand Secretary, which relates to the case of the Rev. Grand Chaplain, T. W. Caskey, begs leave to state, that it appears on examination, that at the time the charge and specifications were preferred against Bro. Caskey, in Jackson Lodge No. 45, at Gainesville, Alabama, on the 8th day of November, 1848, Bro. Caskey was a member of Leake Lodge, No. 17, in the State of Mississippi.

It also appears that at the time of the suspension of Bro. Caskey by Jackson Lodge, at Gainesville, Alabama, Bro. Caskey was a member of Malone Lodge, No. 101, in the State of Mississippi, by dimit from Leake Lodge, No. 17, in said State of Mississippi, and at the time of said suspension, Bro. Caskey was an officer of this Grand Lodge.

The undersigned is of the opinion that Jackson Lodge, No. 45, at Gainesville, Alabama, has transcended its powers in undertaking to try a member of a subordinate Lodge under this jurisdiction, and that those brethren of Jackson Lodge, deeming themselves aggrieved by Bro. Caskey, should have sought their remedy through Leake Lodge, No. 17, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

The undersigned is moreover of the opinion that the seventh article of the General and Permanent Regulations of the Grand Lodge, refers to non-affiliated Masons, and not to the members of other Lodges; much less does it confer power on the Subordinate Lodges of another State, to try a member of a Lodge under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

The following resolution is therefore submitted and recommended for adoption:

Resolved, That the proceedings of Jackson Lodge, No. 45, in the State of Alabama, relative to Bro. T. W. Caskey, are null and void, and that Malone Lodge, No. 101, under this jurisdiction, cannot be justly complained of by Jackson Lodge, No. 45.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. C. PATRICK.

On motion, both reports were laid upon the table.

On motion of Bro. Beauchamp, the report of the Committee on Unfinished Business was taken up, and on motion of Bro. Lackland, the Grand Lodge proceeded to vote on the several amendments to the Constitution, which were laid over last year, to receive the final action of the Grand Lodge at the present communication.

The question was taken upon the first proposed amendment reported by the Committee, to-wit:

Amendment to the 3d article of the Constitution, so as to read as follows: "4th Section. Every Subordinate Lodge shall be represented in the Grand

Lodge by its officers, representatives, or the proxies of its Masters and Wardens, who must be Master Masons and members of the Lodge which they represent, and which appointment, whether of representation or proxy, must be certified by the Secretary, and the seal of the Lodge affixed thereto."

And was decided in the negative; so the proposed amendment was lost.

The vote was then taken upon the proposed amendment to change the place of holding the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, viz :

Amend the 8th section of the 1st article of the Constitution, by striking out "the City of Natchez," and inserting "the City of Jackson, or such other place as the Grand Lodge, at its Annual Communication, may deem proper."

And the amendment was adopted, and has become a part of the Constitution.

Bro. Cannon moved to reconsider the vote just taken, when, on motion of Bro. Featherston, the motion to reconsider was laid upon the table.

Bro. Lewis moved to hold the next Grand Annual Communication at Natchez.

Bro. Fitz moved to hold the next Grand Annual Communication at Vicksburg.

The point of order was raised by Bro. Featherston, whether, by the adoption, of the Constitution removing the Grand Lodge, Jackson had not become the permanent place of holding the Grand Annual Communications, and whether, consequently, the motions of Bro. Lewis and Bro. Fitz were not out of order.

The Grand Master decided the motion to be in order.

Then the motions of Bro. Lewis and Bro. Fitz were laid upon the table.

The next proposed amendment to the Constitution, reported by the Committee on Unfinished Business, was then taken up and adopted, so far as to strike out "Grand Orator" from the 1st Section, Article I. The balance of the amendment, relative to the appointment of certain officers, was not adopted.

On motion of Bro. Kopperl,

Resolved, That the 5th Section, Article I, be amended by striking out "Grand Marshal, Grand Sword Bearer and Grand Pursuivant."

The Grand Lodge, at its present Communication, deeming said proposed amendment expedient, it lies over until the next Grand Annual Communication for final action.

Bro. Watts offered the following :

Resolved, That the Constitution of the Grand Lodge be amended in Article 1, Section 8, so as to strike out the words "or such other place as the Grand Lodge, at its Annual Communication, may deem proper."

A motion was made to lay the amendment on the table, which did not prevail.

Bro. Bodley offered the following as a substitute :

Resolved, That the 8th Section of the 1st Article of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge be amended to read follows : strike out the "City of Jackson, or such other place as the Grand Lodge, at its Annual Communication may deem proper," and insert in lieu thereof, "the City of Vicksburg."

On motion, the substitute was laid on the table, and the question being upon the adoption of the original amendment, as offered by Bro. Watts, it was decided in the affirmative, and lies over until the next Grand Annual Communication for final action.

On motion of Bro. James Watts,

Resolved, That the next Grand Annual Communication be held on the third Monday of January, A. D. 1853.

Bro. Gray presented the following report of the Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation :

The Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation, ask leave to report, that they have examined the proceedings, etc., of Auburn, Palmetto, Centre Ridge and St. John's Lodges, and approve of the same, as amended, and recommend that charters be issued to the petitioners.

They also recommend, that a Dispensation be granted to the petitioners for a Lodge at Bay Springs, to be called Bay Springs Lodge.

GEO. H. GRAY, Sr., Chairman.

Bro. Cannon presented the report of the Special Committee on Education :

The Committee on Education, to whom was referred the memorial and sundry resolutions of Bay of St. Louis Lodge, No. 147, asking that the fostering care of this Grand Lodge be extended to a College, to be located at Shieldsborough, and that an appropriation be made for the benefit of said institution, have had the same under consideration, and instruct me to report, that they appreciate the commendable zeal of the memorialists, on the all-important subject embraced in their communication ; but your Committee deem it inexpedient to comply with the request of said memorial, and ask to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. R. CANNON, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Unthank offered the following amendment to one of the General and Permanent Regulations :

Resolved, That the following clause, "nor shall the compensation of any delegate exceed the amount of dues actually paid by the Lodge which he may represent," be stricken out from the 5th General Regulation.

On motion it was laid on the table.

On motion of Bro. Brahan,

Resolved, That Friendship Lodge, No. 127, be and is hereby authorized to change their place of meeting to a new Lodge room, now being built, within one mile of the present location of said Lodge.

The Grand Lodge resumed the business of the annual election of Grand Officers, with the following result :

Rev. D. S. WOOD.....	Grand Chaplain.
GEORGE J. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
WM. D. LACKLAND.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
JOHN C. BRAHAN.....	Grand Junior Deacon.
DANIEL ROSSER.....	Grand Marshal.
JOHN S. LOGAN.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
GEO. W. JOHNSON.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

The Grand Secretary presented the appeal of H. L. Machum, from Salem Lodge, No. 45, which was referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

WEDNESDAY, January 21, 1852, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi met pursuant to adjournment.

PRESENT :

R. W. JAMES M. HOWRY.....	Deputy Grand Master.
WILLIAM COTHRAN.....	Grand Senior Warden.
D. MITCHELL.....	Grand Junior Warden. <i>p. t.</i>
REV. T. W. CASKEY.....	Grand Chaplain.
GEO. J. DICKS.....	Grand Treasurer.
WILLIAM P. MELLEN.....	Grand Secretary.
GEO. STOKES.....	Grand Senior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
REUBEN NASON.....	Grand Junior Deacon, <i>p. t.</i>
JAMES WATTS.....	Grand Sword Bearer.
WM. H. LOTT.....	Grand Pursuivant.
A. H. KENDRICK.....	Grand Steward and Tyler.

Representatives as before.

Most Worshipful Grand Master Stevens installed James M. Howry, Grand Master elect.

The Grand Master then appointed William Cotheran, of Carrollton Lodge, No. 36, Deputy Grand Master, and installed him and the other Grand Officers elect—the Grand Junior Warden and the Grand Steward and Tyler by proxy.

Bro. Kopperl presented the report of the Special Committee on Charity:

The Committee on Charity, to whom was referred the petition of Belmont Lodge, No. 90, beg leave respectfully to report, that they have had the same under consideration, and would recommend the same to the favorable notice of this Grand Lodge. They would also recommend the adoption of the resolution offered by Bro. Dickens.

Respectfully submitted.

CHARLES KOPPERL, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received.

A motion was made to lay the report on the table, which was lost.

The report was then adopted, with the following resolution referred to in the report :

Resolved, That one hundred dollars be appropriated, out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the relief of Belmont Lodge, No. 90

Bro. Hillyer presented the memorial of Bro. Logier Dewaal, which, on his motion, was referred to the Committee on Charity.

On motion, both reports upon the case of the complaint of Jackson Lodge, No. 45, Alabama, against Malone Lodge, No. 101, were called from the table.

A motion was made to adopt the minority report, which was lost.

The question being upon the adoption of the majority report, Bro. Hillyer offered the following as a substitute :

Resolved, That Jackson Lodge, No. 45, of the State of Alabama, had no right to suspend an officer of this Grand Lodge, and that the action of said Jackson Lodge, No. 45, in suspending, on the 22d of February last, Bro. T. W. Caskey, Grand Chaplain of this Grand Lodge, was null and void.

Which, on motion, was laid upon the table.

Bro. Steele then offered the following as a substitute :

Resolved, That the chair appoint a special committee of three, with instructions to prepare a memorial to the Grand Lodge of the State of Alabama, requesting said Grand Lodge to reinstate Bro. Caskey, and grant him a new trial before Jackson Lodge, after Bro. Caskey shall have been duly notified of said trial.

Which, on motion, was likewise laid upon the table.

The question was taken upon the adoption of the majority report, and was decided in the affirmative.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 10 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

THURSDAY, January 22, 1852, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi met pursuant to adjournment.

Grand Officers and members as heretofore, excepting the Past Grand Chaplain,

The Grand Secretary presented a communication from T. Coopwood, which, on motion, was referred to the Committee on Complaints and Appeals.

Bro. Speight presented the following

PROTEST :

The undersigned, members of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, having been present in the said Grand Lodge on the 21st inst., and witnessed the proceedings in relation to the minority and majority reports of the Committee, on the case of Bro. T. W. Caskey, Past Grand Chaplain of this Grand Lodge, who was suspended on the 22d February last, by Jackson Lodge, No. 45, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of the State of Alabama; and having voted against the course pursued in said case by our said Grand Lodge; believing that the aforesaid action of our said Grand Lodge in said case, to be not only an act of injustice to our said Bro. Caskey, but also dangerous in its tendency as a precedent, and subversive of a clear and palpable principle of Masonic jurisprudence, affecting seriously the question of the jurisdiction, and the rights of the members of this Grand Lodge and its Subordinate Lodges; and, in short, believing,

1. That this Grand Lodge is the only Masonic tribunal which can rightfully exercise jurisdiction over its own members.

2. That a Subordinate Lodge in the State of Alabama, cannot arraign, try, or punish a member of a Subordinate Lodge in the State of Mississippi; much less a member of the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi, for any offence whatsoever, or wheresoever committed.

3. That the action of Jackson Lodge, No. 45, in the State of Alabama, in thus suspending our Past Grand Chaplain, is absolutely null and void, and ought to have been so considered by our Grand Lodge; and being desirous furthermore, to promulgate to the Masonic world, and to perpetuate to all coming time, our action in the matter above stated, and our views on a subject so important to our fraternity, we do, on behalf of ourselves and the Lodges we have the honor to represent, present this, our most solemn protest, against the action of our said Grand Lodge in the aforesaid case, and we respectfully request that the same may be spread upon the minutes of this Grand Body.

J. W. SPEIGHT, W. M., Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32.

WM. M. STEVENS, P. G. M.

WM. R. LACEY, Rep. Claiborne Lodge, No. 110.

H. L. HILL, W. M., Prairie Lodge, No. 87.

C. LEWIS, W. M., Bay of St. Louis Lodge, No. 147.

GILES M. HILLYER, W. M., Harmony Lodge, No. 1.

M. W. PHILLIPS, Rep. Unity Lodge, No. 117.

J. W. MORRIS, P. M. and Rep. DeSoto Lodge, No. 100.

REUBEN NASON, P. M., and Master Vinton Lodge, U. D.

B. F. JOHNSON, W. M., Oak Ridge Lodge, No. 123.

J. C. PATRICK, P. M. and Rep. Grand Gulf Lodge, No. 41.

WM. R. CANNON, P. M. and Rep. Abert Lodge, No. 89.

GEO. R. STOKES, W. M., Clinton Lodge, No. 16.

C. R. CRAWFORD, Rep. Madison Lodge, No. 73.

RICHARD COOPER, W. M., Vannatta Lodge, No. 78.

On motion, the protest was received, and ordered to be spread upon the minutes.

Bro. Cannon presented the following report of the Committee on Education :

The Committee on Education, to whom was referred the important subjects pertaining to mental culture, have had the same under consideration, and have instructed me to report, that the vital importance of the subject, when connected with the difficulty of arriving at a practicable conclusion, causes them to enter upon their responsible duties with much distrust.

The Committee conceive that the presentation of an essay, on the importance and advantages arising from the proper training of the rising generation, forms no part of their duty, and could lead to nothing new or beneficial, as so much has been not only said, but well said. Numerous learned and elaborate reports have been presented to this Grand Lodge at former Communications, which were spread upon the records to be remembered no more. In the general regulations of this body, it has been earnestly recommended to the Subordinate Lodges, to educate all indigent children of Masons within their jurisdiction, and to report at each Annual Communication, the names, ages, etc., of those so educated, coupled with the confident reliance on the Grand Lodge, for timely aid whenever there shall be a greater number than such Subordinate Lodge shall be able to have properly instructed; and yet, thus far all has failed to accomplish the desired end, as we find no reports of the kind. The system heretofore adopted by the Grand Lodge, requiring the Subordinate Lodges to pay into the Treasury certain dues, simply to be distributed again in small sums, has proved to be worse than useless. In view of all the difficulties surrounding us, your Committee have not the vanity to believe, scarcely to hope, that they shall be able to present any system or recommendations, which would not meet the same fate as former reports on this subject; nevertheless, in compliance with our duty, we trust we shall be justified and pardoned in the presentation of a system, which we deem worthy of serious reflection. First, then, that it be earnestly recommended to all Subordinate Lodges, situated in cities, towns, villages, or densely populated communities, to employ a competent teacher or teachers, and place the school under the immediate patronage of the Lodge; appoint a Board of Trustees, who shall be expected to visit the school at least twice in each week; have declamation and a rehearsal on each Friday afternoon of the studies of the week preceding, at which time all the patrons of the school and the public shall be urged to attend; to see that all the children of Masons shall be taught, accepting at the same time the patronage of any other individuals who may think proper to send their children at the usual rates of tuition; and that the idea of "Charity Scholars" may not be entertained, let tuition be free to all children of Masons, and any deficiency which may not be met by the tuition of other pupils and the regular funds of the Lodge, can easily be supplied by the voluntary contributions of such brethren as are fortunately most able to contribute to so laudable an enterprise, and in so doing, your Committee are of the opinion, that it will be found that any burthen thus imposed upon the most liberal contributor to such a school, if well regulated, will fall far short of the ordinary tuition in schools, as they are commonly managed among us. In support of this opinion, we feel fully sustained by the history we have received of the public schools in this city, at present so very prosperous, and promising so much good to the entire community, they having been at first established substantially on the basis as hereinbefore presented.

Intimately connected with this subject, your Committee beg leave to present for the consideration of this Grand Lodge, a system of Normal Schools; that is to say, wherever there is a pupil, male and female, who is found to possess the requisite talents and aptitude for the honorable and responsible duties of teaching, and shall not be able to prosecute such studies as are essentially requisite for a proper qualification to teach without aid, in such cases the beneficiary of such an education, might well be expected and obligated to make such re-

munerative return, as would be best adapted to extend and perfect a system for educating our children at home, by teaching in their turn, such time as shall be deemed right and equitable. And last, though not least, it will be readily perceived, that such a system would most speedily qualify the requisite number of teachers of both sexes, who have been nurtured in our own sunny South, and fully identified with, and personally interested in all the peculiar institutions of the South, a subject that now engages the serious attention of every reflecting man among us, and the absence of such instructors many of us deeply deplore.

Your Committee therefore present for your consideration, the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That all Subordinate Lodges, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, where it may be deemed practicable, be earnestly recommended to establish schools in conformity with the suggestions embraced in the accompanying report, herewith submitted, and at each Annual Communication make report to this Grand Lodge, the details of their situation, progress, etc.

2. That reports made in compliance with the first resolution, will constitute the most certain basis for the fostering care and assistance of this Grand Lodge, in the distribution and appropriation of the funds set apart.

3. That the funds now in the treasury for the purposes of education, be distributed among the Subordinate Lodges, under the same restrictions and regulations as recommended at the last Communication of this Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WM. R. CANNON, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and adopted.

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges submitted a detailed report of all returns received and examined, which was received and agreed to.

Bro. J. A. McMillan offered the following, which was rejected:

Resolved, That from the 5th Section of General and Permanent Regulations, the words, "nor shall the compensation of any delegate exceed the amount of dues actually paid by the Lodge which he may represent," be stricken out.

Bro. Spann presented the report of Committee on Complaints and Appeals:

Your committee beg leave to report that they have had under consideration the following mentioned cases referred to them, and report as follows:

1. The case of J. H. McClanahan's appeal from Macon Lodge, No. 40. On examination of the record in this case, your committee find ample testimony to sustain the first charge against the appellant. The second charge is not fully made out by the testimony, but your committee find no reason to disturb the action of the Lodge, and recommend the affirmance of the decision of the Lodge.

2. The case of Winston Banks' appeal from Leake Lodge, No. 17. Your committee have not been furnished with the proceedings of Leake Lodge, No. 17, on this case. This case, from the papers before them, is one requiring the action of the Grand Lodge, and your committee recommend that it be continued to the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, and that Leake Lodge, No. 17, be required to send up to the next Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, full record of the proceedings of said Lodge in this case.

The case of P. B. Bailey's appeal from Yazoo Lodge, No. 42. On examination of the record in this case, your committee find it to be one of peculiar enormity, demanding the full affirmance of the judgment of the Subordinate Lodge. They therefore recommend that the judgment of Yazoo Lodge, No. 42, be affirmed.

4. The case of John Dean's appeal from De Witt Clinton Lodge, No. 84. On examination of the record in this case, your committee find no sufficient testimony to support the judgment of the Subordinate Lodge, and recommend

that the judgment of said Lodge be reversed, and that the appellant be restored.

5. The case of Bro. James Aikin's appeal from Benjamin Franklin Lodge, No. 46. On examination of the record of this case, your committee find nothing to justify the interference of this Grand Lodge with the action of the Subordinate Lodge, and recommend the affirmance of the judgment of the said Lodge.

6. The case of A. C. Rose's appeal from Greenwood Lodge, No. 135. On examination of the record in this case, your committee have discovered nothing which either demanded or justified the action of the Lodge below, and therefore recommend that the judgment of the Lodge be reversed, and the appellant restored.

Your committee recommend the adoption of the resolution referred to them on motion of Bro. Speight, to-wit:

Resolved, That Simon C. Muldrow, a citizen of Oktibbeha county, residing within the jurisdiction of Abert Lodge, No. 89, be relieved from the sentence of expulsion some time since passed upon him by the said Lodge, and that he be restored to all the rights and privileges of a Master Mason, and that said Lodge be permitted to restore him to membership.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

SAM. FORD,
CH. S. SPANN,
N. G. BRYSON,
J. O. LUSHER,

J. A. HANSON,
GEO. STOKES,
C. R. CRAWFORD,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to, except to so much as relates to the case of Bro. Aiken, and finally, that portion of the report was also agreed to.

Bro. J. N. Caruthers, proxy for w. m., Pikeville Lodge, No. 85, appeared, presented his credentials, and took his seat.

Bro. Ford, from the same committee, made the following report of Committee on Complaints and Appeals:

The Appeal of Lewis Tiner, from Thomaston Lodge, No. 124.

On examination of the record in this case, your committee find nothing which authorizes them to recommend that the decision of the Lodge should be disturbed.

The appellant makes the following assignment of errors, in his appeal:

1. The Lodge tried him for an offence (even if true), committed before the accused became a Mason.

2. Testimony was received, of words spoken by the accused, or charged to have been spoken by the accused, before he became a Mason.

3. The accused was not tried at a regular Communication, but on a day to which the Lodge was called off.

4. The Committee who was appointed as prosecutor was allowed to vote.

5. All the testimony was not taken down in writing.

6. All the testimony was not taken in the Lodge, and the member who was appointed to take the testimony out of the Lodge, was not a disinterested member, but was prejudiced against the accused.

7. The testimony that was before the Lodge was not sufficient to sustain the Lodge in her action.

8. The testimony was not such as should have been received in the Lodge, for it was the mere opinion or thoughts of other men about my wishes unexpressed.

9. There was a prejudice in the Lodge against me, and undue advantages taken to prejudice the members of the Lodge against me in their vote.

10. In taking the vote in my case, there was not the same rule observed, that there was in voting on other cases then before our Lodge.

Your Committee have carefully examined each one of the assignments of error, and beg leave to report as follows:

As to the first and second assignments, there is no evidence in the record to sustain them. We find nowhere that the appellant objected to the introduction of testimony for the causes assigned, nor is there any suggestion in the record, of the facts asserted in these assignments.

As to the third assignment, the committee find on the examination of the record, that the trial was commenced at a regular communication of the Lodge, and necessarily continued from time to time.

As to the fourth assignment, your committee are unaware of any rule or regulation of the Order, making it improper for a committee appointed by the Lodge to collect the testimony upon the charges preferred against a member, to vote upon his trial; on this point your committee also report, that there is nothing in the record showing that the committee did vote.

As to the fifth assignment, your committee find no evidence in the record that all the testimony was not taken down in writing.

As to the sixth assignment, your committee deem it unimportant whether the testimony be taken in the Lodge or out of it, by a proper committee, so it be taken by authority of the Lodge, and they find no evidence from the record that the member or members were not disinterested, and were prejudiced against the accused.

As to the seventh assignment, your committee find, upon a careful perusal of the whole record, that the charges and specifications are fully sustained, so far as passed upon by the Subordinate Lodge in this case.

As to the eighth assignment, your committee find no evidence that there was prejudice in the Lodge against the accused, nor that undue advantage was taken by any one to prejudice the members of the Lodge against the appellant in their votes.

As to the tenth assignment, your committee find no evidence in the record, that the vote in this case was not taken in the Lodge below, by the same rule observed in voting on other cases then before the Lodge. The record is specific in giving the vote on each charge and specification.

The record in this case is voluminous, and your committee, after a careful examination of the whole record, find nothing authorizing them to recommend that the Grand Lodge disturb the decision of the Lodge below.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. S. SPANN,
SAM. FORD,
GEO. STOKES,
J. O. LUSHER,

J. A. HANSON,
C. K. CRAWFORD,
N. G. BRYSON,
Committee

On motion, the report was received.

Bro. Youngblood offered the following as a substitute:

Resolved, That Bro. Lewis Tiner, who appeals from the decision of Thomas-ton Lodge, No. 124, expelling him from said Lodge, be granted a new trial; and that the case be referred to Eureka Lodge, No. 61, with instructions to try the same; and that the action of Eureka Lodge, No. 61, if legally had, be a final disposition of the same.

After some time spent in the consideration of the substitute, the further consideration of the report and substitute was laid over until afternoon.

On motion of Bro. Fitz:

Resolved, That no member of this Grand Lodge shall be allowed to speak, or debate, upon any question for a longer time than one-half hour, without the

special permission of the Grand Lodge, and that all documents read by him be deemed a part of his argument.

The Grand Lodge was then called off until 3 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, January 22, 1853, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi met pursuant to adjournment. The same members present as in the morning.

Bro. Kopperl offered the following :

Resolved, That no member or delegate in this Grand Lodge shall be allowed to leave its deliberations permanently, without first obtaining permission from the Grand Lodge.

A motion was made to lay the resolution on the table, which was lost, and the resolution was then adopted.

Bro. Gray presented the following report of the Committee on Lodges under Dispensation :

The Committee on Lodges under Dispensation beg leave to report, that they have had under consideration and carefully scrutinized the proceedings, etc., of the following named Lodges, working under Dispensation, to-wit :

Hartford, Auburn, St. John's, Palmetto, Centre Ridge, Daleville, Polar Star, Pine Bluff, Ellisville, Vinton, Orizaba, Harrisburg, Jeremiah and Smithville, petitioning for charters, and find many irregularities which require correction. They discover on the minutes of many of the above Lodges, that the custom of suspending their By-Laws for the purpose of taking immediate action on petitions for initiation, in cases which the committee consider are not authorized by the letter or sanctioned by the spirit of Masonic Constitutions. The Constitutions of Ancient Free Masonry contained in the Ahiman Rezon, expressly prohibit any person being "made or admitted a member of the Lodge, without being proposed at least one Lodge night before, unless in cases of emergency, or by Dispensation from the Grand Master, or his Deputy in his absence;" and a resolution of this Grand Lodge declares, "that no case shall be considered a case of emergency, except when the candidate is about to remove permanently from the State." Yet we find in many instances, that the By-Laws have been suspended, and in same, the consent of the brethren merely has been obtained for acting on petitions immediately on their reception, on no other ground than that of furnishing material on which to try their "Prentice hand," or to form a class to receive the benefit of the light reflected from the bright mirror of their treasury, according to the surface presented.

The practice of conferring the three degrees of Masonry on the candidate at the same meeting, prevails in many of the above named Lodges, which is in direct violation of the General and Permanent Regulations of the Grand Lodge. In one case, a petition for initiation was received at a regular meeting—and a special meeting was called the next day, and the ballot was taken on said petition, and the candidate initiated without Dispensation, or its being a case of emergency. In the proceedings of some, it is found that members were admitted, allowed to dimitt, and initiates permitted to vote, and elections held in which officers were changed—all of which are in violation of Masonic Regulations.

The By-Laws of some authorize an appeal from the decision of the Worshipful Master. This the committee feel authorized to strike out from their codes. An article is also found requiring a Past Master to preside in conferring the

degrees, in the absence of the Master, although the Wardens are present. The usage is well established that the Warden succeeds to the duties of the Master in his absence. He cannot be superceded by a resolution, or By-Laws of a Lodge. He derives his authority from ancient usage, which cannot be changed by any regulation of a Subordinate Lodge, and a decision upon that point at this Communication authorizes the committee to strike out that clause, as well as the one authorizing any Master Mason to open the Lodge and transact business in the absence of the Master and Wardens.

* * * * *

The committee have had also under consideration, petitions, praying that Dispensations be granted for holding a Lodge at Bay Springs, Tishomingo county, and Homestead, in Yazoo county, and recommend that their prayer be granted, and Dispensations issued accordingly.

The proceedings, etc., of George Washington, Abbeville and Carson Lodges, U. D., and the Dispensation of Daleville Lodge, have not been laid before your committee. We recommend that when they are received by the Grand Secretary, he be authorized to examine the same, and, if approved, to issue charters accordingly. Pleasant Grove Lodge returns her Dispensation and does not apply for a charter.

In order to place the question of suspension of By-Laws beyond misconstruction, the committee respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That Subordinate Lodges have not the right to suspend any part of their By-Laws, except that which requires petitions to lie over one month, and that only in case of emergency, as defined by this Grand Lodge.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. H. GRAY, Sr., Ch'mn.	M. W. PHILLIPS,
D. MITCHELL,	J. N. SCARBOROUGH,
J. B. DEASON,	J. B. ELLIS,
W. R. LACKEY,	Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

On motion of Bro. J. P. Jones,

Resolved, That a Dispensation for Homestead Lodge be granted in conformity with the report of the Committee on Dispensations.

Ordered, That all the other recommendations of the committee be carried into effect.

On motion, the report of the Committee on Complaints and Appeals, relative to Lewis Tiner's case, was again considered.

Bro. Youngblood's substitute was laid upon the table, and the report was agreed to.

Bro. Spann presented the following report of the Committee on Complaints and Appeals :

Your committee report, on the resolution offered by Bro. Burkhalter, to restore to Masonry, George D. Patterson, expelled by St. Alban's Lodge, No. 60, that no testimony has been submitted to them relative thereto; and they beg leave to report the same back to the Grand Lodge, and be discharged from the further consideration thereof.

CHARLES S. SPANN, Chairman.

The report was received and agreed to, the committee discharged, and the resolution rejected.

Bro. Cooper presented an additional report for the Committee on Subordinate Lodges, relating mainly to By-Laws of same. Report was agreed to.

Bro. Robinson presented the following report of the Special Committee on the death of Bro. D. A. Harrington :

The committee to whom was referred that part of the Grand Secretary's report which relates to the death of Bro. D. A. Harrington, beg leave to report, that in the death of Bro. Harrington, the Order has lost a zealous and useful member; and your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution, expressive of the sentiments of this Grand Lodge:

Resolved, That in the death of Bro. Harrington, our Order has been bereaved of a useful member, and society of a highly esteemed citizen.

N. WOODWARD,
J. A. McMILLAN,
H. C. ROBINSON,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Cothran presented the following report of the Committee on Work:

The committee appointed at the last Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge, to adopt a uniform system of work and lectures in the first three degrees of Masonry, beg leave most respectfully to state, that the object of the committee has been to adopt the most correct, as well as the most general system of work and lectures, now presented throughout the United States.

In the discharge of their duties, the committee have invited and had with them a number of the best informed and most experienced brethren and have heard, considered and carefully compared the work and lectures of each—and after the most careful and critical examination of all, beg leave to report, that they believe the work and lectures prepared by order of the National Masonic Convention, held in Baltimore in 1843, as exemplified and given by the Chairman of your committee, are the most correct, ancient, uniform, and in more general use in the United States, than any other system now practiced.

Your committee have come to this conclusion from the beauty and simplicity of the work, as well as the fact that the object of the Convention at Baltimore was to revise the ancient work and lectures of the three first degrees. It is well known, that during the anti-Masonic excitement, which for a number of years spread over the land, most of the Lodges were disbanded throughout the United States. It is, therefore, but reasonable to suppose, that in many portions of the country, some of the true work should be lost. It is equally reasonable to suppose, that the Convention, composed as it was of the oldest, brightest and most experienced Masons from every portion of the country, aided and assisted by each other, would be better able to receive the ancient work and lectures than any other body of Masons.

For the reasons above stated, your committee have agreed to report said work and lectures, and recommend their adoption by this Grand Lodge, as exemplified by the Chairman of your Committee.

WM. H. STEVENS, Ch'mn.
JAMES M. HOWRY,
W. COTHRAN,
CHARLES S. SPANN,
GEORGE STOKES,
Committee.

On motion the report was laid upon the table.

On motion of Bro. Lott, the report of the majority of the committee on Jackson Lodge, No. 45, against Malone Lodge, No. 101, was reconsidered; and on motion of Bro. Patrick, the following substitute was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge of the State of Alabama be respectfully requested to set aside the suspension of Past Grand Chaplain, T. W. Caskey, and to direct Jackson Lodge, No. 45, at Gainesville, Alabama, to prefer charges and specifications against said Bro. Caskey, and transmit them to Malone Lodge, No. 101, within this jurisdiction.

Resolved, That, on the transmission of said charges and specifications as

aforesaid, Malone Lodge, No. 101, shall proceed to take testimony in the case by deposition or otherwise, and hear and determine the case upon its merits.

Ordered, That the Grand Secretary transmit the above resolutions to the Grand Lodge of Alabama.

The following was presented by Bro. J. N. Caruthers :

Resolved, That the dues of Pikeville Lodge, No. 85, for the year —, which stand charged against that Lodge and unpaid, be remitted.

On motion, referred to a Committee of Five, consisting of Bros. Lusher, Jones, Lott, Patrick and Woodward.

Bro. Logan offered the following :

Resolved, That the vote ordering the protest of Bro. Speight and others, relative to Bro. Caskey, to be spread upon the minutes, be reconsidered.

The question, being on the adoption of the resolution, was decided in the negative.

Bro. Lewis offered the following :

Resolved, That Moses Cook Lodge, No. 111, be allowed six months to pay her dues to the Grand Lodge.

On motion, the resolution was referred to the last Committee above mentioned.

On motion of Bro. Lewis,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to strike from the suspended list of the returns of Moses Cook Lodge, No. 111, the names of J. B. Mitchell, S. Pitts, and F. Leach.

Bro. Kopperl presented the following report of Special Committee on Charity :

The Committee on Charity to whom was referred a memorial in behalf of Bro. Logier DeWaal, beg leave to report, that they have had the same under consideration, and are of the opinion that Bro. Logier DeWaal is truly an object of Masonic charity ; and from the memorial before them, it appears that the applicant is now aged and infirm, and a Mason in good standing. They therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be contributed out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the relief of Bro. Logier DeWaal.

Respectfully submitted,

CHAS. KOPPERL, Chm'n.

On motion, the report was received.

Bro. Stokes moved to strike out "twenty-five," and insert fifty, but the motion did not prevail ; and, on motion, the report was agreed to.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 7 o'clock, P. M.

THURSDAY, January 22, 1852, 7 o'clock, P. M.

The Grand Lodge met pursuant to adjournment.

The Grand Secretary presented the report of the Committee on

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

We are again called upon to report upon the Foreign Correspondence of this

Grand Lodge. In so doing, many matters of interest to the craft, and touching the welfare of Free Masonry generally, will demand our attention. The subjects being numerous, though each might be worthy of a separate and elaborate report, we shall dispose of them as briefly as their nature will permit, and such as propriety will justify, with simply quoting the opinions of others, or the edicts themselves, or with giving our own opinions without any remarks in their support.

In again congratulating you upon the continued extension and general prosperity of our Order, it would afford to us great pleasure if we could add that entire harmony prevailed within all the jurisdictions of the Grand Lodges of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons; yet it would be surprising if there should not be differences of opinion, and that schisms should not sometimes result from errors of judgment, as well as from the too rapid advancement of candidates, who, when they become Masters, and enjoy a share of the government, show by the freedom which they give to their passions, that they have made but little proficiency even in the first degree. Unfortunately, too, some who are even learned in the history and usages of the Craft, have never understood or been influenced by the spirit of Free Masonry. The consequence is, that there is still confusion and discord in one or two jurisdictions. Of these we shall make mention in their proper place.

Several Grand Lodges are still discussing questions which this Grand Lodge has already considered, and it is presumed that the presentation of them again is not your desire, or would be a profitable occupancy of your time, or the labors of your Committee.

If we may judge from the character and tone of the documents before us, the craft generally are employed upon suitable materials, with the approved working tools, for the most glorious temple that man ever erected or designed.

CALIFORNIA.

The Grand Lodge of California has made some important amendments to her Constitution, and has appointed a Committee, consisting of the Grand Master, J. A. Tutt, P. G. M., J. D. Stevens, Grand Secretary L. Stowell, and four others, to address the Grand and Subordinate Lodges of Europe and the United States, a circular setting forth the amount and nature of the embarrassments of several of her Subordinate Lodges, and for what causes their liabilities have been incurred, etc.

Upon the recommendation of the Grand Master, Bro. J. D. Stevenson, no action was had upon the difficulties in New York, considering them as merely local questions.

TEXAS.

The Grand Lodge of Texas has adopted the following resolution:

That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge, that a Master Mason can be a member of two Lodges at one and the same time.

Formerly, it was practically impossible, without intending to have any Scriptural allusion, for no man could serve two masters. Whether it be wise to make a change, now we have ceased to be operative Masons, is questionable. The safer course, perhaps, is to allow of no alteration of the ancient laws of the craft. That, perhaps, could hardly be called a law—it was the result of a necessity; but still we think that if a brother is a good member of one Lodge, he will find but little time to work in another. We copy the following from the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence:

The following question was submitted to the Grand Lodge of Virginia. If a Mason should die, and leave a widow, and the widow should again marry a gentleman who is not a Mason—at the death of the second husband, has the widow a claim upon the institution for charity or other relief?

The principle in the question has been decided in the United States Pension Office, where the widow of a soldier marries again, she is still considered the widow of a soldier, after the death of her second husband, and entitled

as such to a pension. We [the Texas Committee] consider the widow of a Mason entitled to all the benefits of the institution, during the life of her second husband, or after his death. A contrary principle would be against sound policy, as it would operate in restraint of marriage.

The principle, as said to have been settled at the Pension Office, appears to be the correct one. When married again she has no claim upon the institution as a widow, until after the death of her second husband.

We much fear that our Masonic charities are too inconsiderable to operate in restraint of marriage, and that the opinion of our brethren of Texas, consequently, has but a weak support.

The Texas Committee recommend a resolution, adopted by the Grand Lodge of Michigan:

Resolved, That the Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, be required to provide each deceased brother Master Mason's widow, who is in good standing, with a certificate of such brother's standing at his death, that they may derive the advantage belonging to a Master Mason's widow.

It is said by the Grand Master of Wisconsin, whose address we find copied at large by the Texas Committee, that the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania authorizes the degree of Past Master to be conferred by dispensation, in Lodges working in the symbolic degrees. The Grand Master of Wisconsin says that he thinks this is wrong, as an infringement upon the rights of Chapters, in which the Past Master is actually a degree.

We should think the practice highly inexpedient, if the Grand Lodge possessed the power; nor do we understand by what reasoning the possessor of the degree deems himself authorized to confer it, except upon a Master elect. It was anciently a pre-requisite to the Royal Arch degree, that the candidate must have passed the Chair. It is so still, and the Chapter has assumed the power of conferring it; for that purpose the claim of the Chapter has been acquiesced in, though not properly a Chapter degree. The Grand Lodge, in the exercise of its sovereign power, may have the right to confer it, or to grant dispensations to confer it, upon Masters elect. Any P. M. in this jurisdiction can confer it on a W. M. elect. We have been informed, though we cannot rely upon our authority, that it is a common practice in England for Subordinate Lodges to confer the Past Master's degree, but at all events, under the influence of an English Mason, one of our own Lodges, the army Lodge, St. John's, conferred the degree upon several Master Masons, though expressly forbidden by their letters of dispensation to confer any but the first three degrees. In Virginia, as we learn from Bro. Dove's Text Book, the degree is conferred upon the Wardens of Subordinate Lodges, and Bro. Dove, when his attention was drawn to it by your Grand Secretary, at length, and with much ability, defended the practice. However expedient it might be deemed to increase the recipients of this degree there is to our minds an insuperable objection to conferring the degree, except upon Masters elect. If this objection does not present itself at once to our brethren in Virginia and Pennsylvania, the manner of conferring the degree there, must vary from ours in one very essential point at least.

VERMONT.

The Grand Master of Vermont, in his address, acknowledges the receipt of \$150 from an unknown English friend, to be applied to the charity fund of such Subordinate Lodges as stand in need. He says he has no means of knowing or even imagining the person from whom the donation comes. The Grand Lodge of Georgia, we notice received a donation of \$80 from a lady in England, Miss Elizabeth Davies of Shrewsbury. The Grand Lodge of Vermont decides very properly, that a single negative vote is sufficient to prevent the advancement of a candidate, and the brother so casting his vote, cannot be questioned upon the subject.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, of the Grand Lodge of Vermont, express the opinion the Grand Lodge has no power to confer the Past Master's

degree, and say that it has never been contended for or exercised by the Grand Lodge of Vermont. They think it belongs to the Royal Arch Chapter. It has however, been conferred in particular cases, in the presence of three or more Past Masters.

In examining the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Texas, we have already made some remarks upon this subject, and will only add, that all the members of the Grand Lodge not being Past Masters, it could not be conferred by the Grand Lodge as organized. Our Grand Master formerly desired the members not Past Masters to retire, and what was called a Convocation of Past Masters was called, and the degree conferred, and the other members were then readmitted. Latterly a Convocation of Past Masters have been called during a recess of the Grand Lodge.

The Vermont committee think that a Warden cannot preside or confer a degree. "Taking charge of a Lodge in the absence of the Master," enables him to carry on the ordinary business of the Lodge, but if a degree is to be conferred, if the Warden is not a Past Master, the oldest Past Master, or the Master of another Lodge, if present, should be called upon to preside.

We respectfully submit that the authorities are opposed to this opinion. In the days of operative Masonry, we think it highly probable that the Master or Grand Master was generally present at the conference of the degrees, yet not always. Elias Ashmole was initiated in 1643, by Richard Puckett, the Warden of the Lodge. In New York, it is settled that the Wardens succeed to the duties of the Master, though a Past Master may be present, and that the Warden must first open the Lodge before he invites, if it so pleases him, a Past Master to take the Chair. Says the Ahiman Rezon:

"If a Master of a particular Lodge is deposed, or dimitts, the Senior Warden shall forthwith fill the Master's chair: till the next time of choosing."

"In the Master's absence, he fills the chair, even though a former Master be present; except he has a mind to honor a more skillful Past Master."—[Dermott's Ahiman Rezon.

By the seceding Grand Lodge at London, the rule was that the authority reverted to the Past Masters, say the Committee in New York, to whom we are indebted for these quotations, but that it is well settled that the authority devolves upon the Senior Warden, and in his absence, upon the Junior.

The old rule in this State agrees with the rule in New York, with the exception, that the Warden might invite a Past Master to open the Lodge, as to preside.

DELAWARE.

The Grand Master of Delaware, after taking much pains to inform himself upon the subject, decides that the power to remit a sentence of suspension, is in the Subordinate Lodge, but the remission not to take effect until approved and ratified by the Grand Lodge.

This might be a very excellent rule, but we apprehend that it is nowhere else the law. The rule in this jurisdiction is, that the Subordinate Lodges alone exercise the power, without the supervision of the Grand Lodge, excepting upon appeal.

IOWA.

A Lodge in Iowa having committed a grave offence, the question arose, whether the Grand Lodge had original jurisdiction; "example, if an entire Lodge becomes basely immoral, who shall arraign, try and expel?"

We should unhesitatingly answer such a question, that the Grand Lodge may delegate the power to try the members of such Lodge to a Subordinate Lodge, or try them herself, as she may deem best.

NORTH CAROLINA.

The Grand Lodge of North Carolina has determined to establish a seminary

of learning, and has fixed upon the town of Oxford for its location. To aid in her enterprise, she has sent circulars to all the Lodges in the United States, asking a contribution of \$20 from each.

This Grand Lodge mourns the death of Richard Dobbs Speight, Past Grand Master. He was late Governor of North Carolina, as were his father and grandfather.

G. L. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The Grand Master of the District of Columbia, on the 4th July last, laid the corner stone of the extension of the Capitol at Washington City, clothed in the same regalia, and using the identical gavel which Washington used to lay the corner stone of the main edifice, fifty-eight years before, on the 18th September, 1793.

INDIANA.

In the beautiful address of the Grand Master Deming, of Indiana, it is stated that the past year, in that jurisdiction, has been one of quietness and order among the brethren.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of Indiana, make a long and able report, but we cannot agree with them in all their positions. We particularly dissent from their curtailment of the ancient prerogatives of the Grand Master. By drawing our principles of government from the civil code, and by adopting the usages of other organizations, Freemasonry would soon lose her characteristics, and her beauty would be greatly marred, if she did not sink into oblivion, with the thousands of associations which have had an existence, and have wholly disappeared in her day, or are now rapidly disappearing in the horizon.

The Grand Lodge concurred in the report of a special committee, in which it declared that a majority of a Lodge may restore to Masonry a suspended member, but by the By-laws of the Grand Lodge, he cannot be restored to membership in the Subordinate Lodge, but by an unanimous vote.

The Grand Lodge also decided, relative to the granting of charters by the Supreme Council of New Orleans, to establish Symbolic Lodges, that a Grand Lodge has the exclusive power to establish Lodges, to confer the first three degrees, and declared that they could only recognize Free and Accepted Ancient York Masonry.

The Grand Secretary, Austin W. Morris, died during the past year. Bro. Morris was held in very high esteem by the public, as well as by the fraternity.

ARKANSAS.

The Grand Lodge of Arkansas has adopted a set of By-laws for the government of Lodges working under a dispensation. They appear to have been better calculated for chartered Lodges, as they provide for election of all the officers, and for trials of members.

The Grand Lodge has adopted resolutions conceding to the Lodges in the adjoining States upon their border, the same privileges which the Grand Lodge gave to Lodges upon her border in 1850. In fact, the resolution is a copy of that of this Grand Lodge.

The State of Arkansas having appropriated the Seminary Land Fund to the establishment of common schools, and there being no college in Arkansas, the Grand Lodge has made an appropriation of two thousand dollars, to aid in the establishment of "St. John's College, of Arkansas," and a committee was appointed to apply to the Legislature for a charter.

UNION LODGE, U. D.

An address from Union Lodge, working under a dispensation at Panama, by authority of the Grand Lodge of Texas, asking for aid, is before us.

The brethren composing the Lodge appear to be well known, and it cannot be doubted that assistance is much needed by our brethren at that point. The

sick and distressed brethren traveling across the Isthmus, must become burthen-some to a Lodge composed of ten individuals only.

We shall move its reference to your special committee on charity.

VIRGINIA.

The Grand Orient of France, in 1850, gave a charter to some brethren in Richmond, Virginia. The principal officer disclaimed all idea of invading the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, and the W. M. of the new Lodge, with a sufficient number of brethren, have applied for and received a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Virginia, legalizing their proceedings, and authorizing them to open a Lodge of Ancient York Masons, in the French or English language.

We find the following in the proceedings of December, 1850:

Whereas, It is desirable that this Grand Lodge should be in possession of an efficient Masonic Library, for the use of this Grand Lodge and its members, therefore,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary communicate with our sister Grand Lodges, and respectfully ask from them a copy of such text books or ritual, adopted or used by them; also, a copy of the Constitution and By-laws by which they are governed.

The W. M. of Lodges are imperatively required to have the deaths of M. M. in good standing recorded, and a notice sent to the Grand Secretary, who is required to send to the W. M., for the use of the widow and children, a diploma filled up with the name of the deceased brother.

The Grand Secretary is required to have bound in volumes of uniform and convenient size, each year's proceedings of the sister Grand Lodges.

TENNESSEE.

The Grand Master of Tennessee acknowledges the receipt of \$150, from an English friend, who, judging from the fact that the money is received through the same agency, is the same individual, who made a donation of a like amount to the Grand Lodge of Vermont.

The Grand Lodge has resolved that the Grand Master shall not grant dispensations to Subordinate Lodges, to confer the degrees in less than the ordinary for usual time, unless he shall be well satisfied that is a case of emergency.

The Grand Lodge donated \$1750 equally between Jackson, Marysville and Macon Colleges.

One stated meeting shall elapse, according to an edict of that Grand Lodge, between the conferring of the degrees.

We see the fact noticed in the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, that A. M. Winn, of Sacramento City, tendered to the Grand Lodge of California, 10 acres of land, within one mile of that city, for the use of a Masonic institution of learning, and the proposition has been accepted. Bro. Winn was formerly a member of Vicksburg Lodge, No. 26, within this jurisdiction.

LANDMARKS.

"What are they?"

An answer to this question, we find in the report of the Committee of the Willard Grand Lodge of New York.

"Ancient usages, laws, rules, practices and customs, of the Fraternity before 1717, and before 926; and the laws of the ceremonies of initiations, and the pre-requisites of candidates, which are termed the body of Masonry."

"Why are they unchangeable?"

"1st. Because the Order is universal in organization, one in essence and being, indivisible in quality, and should be unchangeable in forms, ceremonies and laws, because of its universality, oneness and indivisibility.

"2d. Because at the Grand Assembly, held in York, in 926, after obtaining

a charter from the King, they did frame the Constitution and charges, 'and made a law, to preserve and observe the same in all time coming.'

"3d. Because in 1763, similar laws were made on the same condition.

"4th. Because in 1717, the four old Lodges in London gave up certain privileges then exclusively enjoyed by them, one of which was, that of meeting as a Lodge, and consented to the formation of new Lodges, and to the new regulations then made, on the condition that no law, rule or regulation, should thereafter be made by the new Lodge, or their successors, 'to encroach on any landmark which was at that time established as the standard of Masonic government,' and agreed to admit the Masters and Wardens of the new Lodges to seats in the Grand Lodge, and to share in the Fraternity, 'while such Lodges acted in conformity to the Ancient Constitutions of the Order,' Preston 201. And a conditional clause to this effect was inserted in the new regulations as a proviso, upon the power of making new future regulations, viz: provided always, that the ancient landmarks be carefully preserved.

5th. Because every Grand Master, and every Master of a Lodge, from that time has solemnly engaged, and every Master Mason has been solemnly charged on no account to permit or countenance any known deviation from the ancient landmarks. Preston, page 204, says, "the necessity of fixing the original Constitutions as the standard, and by which all future laws in the society are to be regulated, was so clearly understood and defined by the whole Fraternity, at this time, (1721) that it was established as an unerring rule, at every installation, public and private, for many years afterwards, to make the Grand Master and the Masters and Wardens of every Lodge, engage to support the original Constitutions to the observance of which, also, every Mason was bound at his initiation."

6th, and lastly. Because, as Preston says, page 303, by the above prudent precaution, the installation ceremony, and the charge in the Master's Degree, were established as the basis of all future Masonic jurisdiction in the south of England, and the ancient landmarks, as they are emphatically styled, or the boundaries set up as checks of innovation, were carefully secured against the attacks of future invaders.

WISCONSIN.

We notice a kind of oath of office in the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, as follows:

I solemnly swear, upon the honor of a Mason, that in the office of —, I will, according to the best of my abilities, strictly comply with the Constitution and regulations of this Grand Lodge, and all other ancient Masonic usages, so far as the same shall come to my knowledge.

This is all promised at the installation, by the acceptance of his office; the obligation cannot be strengthened.

MAINE.

The Grand Lodge of Maine urges the formation of a Supreme or General Grand Lodge, and required their committee to correspond with other Grand Lodges on this subject. No communication has, as yet, been received from the committee.

MISSOURI.

The Grand Master reports the Masonic College in that State to be in a very flourishing condition, and that "it bids fair to become a blessing to the State, and an honor, a lasting honor, to our venerable and cherished Order." All it needs is a proper endowment, and he has no doubt that the Grand Lodge can use means that will ultimately succeed in endowing it amply. The College, however, has but a small faculty, consisting only of a President, Professor of Mathematics, Professor of Languages, (the latter supported by private subscription in the Board of Curators, but only for the year,) and a Principal of the Preparatory Department.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, in their report made in May, 1850, which we did not receive until the present year, speak rather disrespectfully of the degree of Past Master, and consider it entirely useless. We differ from that committee as to the importance of that degree. We have witnessed its beneficial influence, and think that the lessons it teaches, if properly given and explained, does enable the occupant of the Chair to discharge his duties better than he could without it.

A decided opposition is expressed to the formation of a General Grand Lodge.

The Grand Lodge of Missouri denies the right to the Grand Master to make Masons at sight; but claims the right for the Grand Lodge to confer degrees.

Your committee have already expressed an adverse opinion to that of Missouri, as to the powers of the Grand Master, but coincide as to the power of the Grand Lodge. But they think it inexpedient also, for the Grand Lodge to exercise that right.

A Special Committee upon Ancient Usages, made a report which was adopted in which they state that nearly all of the manuscripts used by Anderson, emanated from Masons who had been made under authority from York. And the Grand Lodge resolved that the ancient charges, as published by order of the Grand Lodge of England, contain all or nearly all, the ancient landmarks and usages of Masonry, proper to be published, and that no Grand Lodge has the right to alter, change or amend, any portion of said ancient charges.

By the report of the President of the Masonic College, in 1851, the College affairs appear to have continued to prosper, and much confidence is expressed of final success.

NEW YORK.

Since our last Grand Annual Communication, the Grand Lodge of England has decided in favor of the pretensions of the Willard Grand Lodge. Much stress is laid upon this decision by the Willard party in New York, and we have read it with much care, and find two things remarkable about it—that it exhibits (and we desire to speak with profound respect) a want of proper appreciation of a written Constitution, and sheds not one ray of historical light upon the subject; not a single fact is added to give weight to her authority beyond those with which we are all familiar in the United States. After stating the facts as to the manner in which the amendment to the New York Constitution was made, and considering the mode and form sufficient, the Grand Lodge of England, speaking of the validity of the amendments, and relative to the old Provincial Charter which made Past Masters members of the Grand Lodge, says, "this objection would be well founded if, and only if, the Grand Lodge of New York still remained Provincial, and still continued to act by virtue of that Charter.

Now we conceive that the Constitution which continued the membership of Past Masters, bound the Grand Lodge of New York to the maintenance of her members, as strongly as the authority of the mother Grand Lodge could. The Grand Lodge of England evidently does not perceive the difference between a Constitution and a mere By-Law, which requires two ballots, at different Grand Communications, to amend or appeal. We quote:

"It is further objected, that these amendments are beyond those limits. This objection assumes, and those who propound it assert an inherent, vested and inalienable right, in every Past Master of every Lodge to vote on every question, as members of the Grand Lodge; a franchise, as the objectors call it, possessed by Past Masters, and not subject to the control of the Grand Lodge."

"No authority for such a doctrine is to be found in the history or principles of Free Masonry."

We should not expect to find such a doctrine in the history of Free Masonry, unless we should first find that there had been an attack upon the rights of Past Masters. What deduction of principle might be drawn from the usages of the earliest Grand Lodges, must give way to the principle enforced by a written Constitution.

The Grand Lodge of England says, that there is no reason to believe that Past Masters, as such, ever had either vote or place in the old mother Grand Lodge of York.

This is no argument against the right in New York—first, because we do not know that such an order as Past Masters existed in the Grand Lodge of York—and, second, because the right is drawn from a written Constitution.

It is stated, that one of the two Grand Lodges, which afterwards co-existed in England, saw fit to grant to Past Masters, vote as well as place, in Grand Lodge, though they had no right in the Grand Lodge established in London in the early part of the last century. From the former, the Grand Lodge Charter of New York was derived. The present Constitution of the United Grand Lodge of England admits Past Masters to seat and vote in Grand Lodge, but does not (this Committee say) recognize an indestructible right to what it grants, and withdraws the right upon a Past Master ceasing to be a member for twelve months of any Lodge; and so do we, without waiting twelve months; for so it is in our Constitution, and he loses his grade as a Past Master by his dimitting.

We think with the Grand Lodge of England, that the right of Past Masters to sit and vote in a Grand Lodge, depends entirely upon the Constitutions which grant such a privilege, and therefore is not inherent; and we do not question that if the Grand Lodge of New York had been wholly dissolved, that a new Constitution might have been formed, by which Past Masters, as in Louisiana in 1850, might have been excluded entirely from membership, but that such a result could not be attained by virtue of a simple power of amendment. We have given the whole argument of the Grand Lodge of England upon this point, as made under the influence of the eloquence of Bro. Willard, Past Grand Master of New York, who was present at the time.

But without unnecessarily occupying your time upon this subject, we will say that active measures are now in operation which will result, we doubt not, in the speedy compromise of the difficulties in New York, and which will allow those Past Masters who were members prior to the rupture in 1849, to retain their membership, and that no others shall be admitted to that right. We shall greatly rejoice if harmony shall be thus restored, and we shall rejoice the more that we have denounced the illegal acts of both, and particularly the violent conduct of the Phillips party in maintaining what they believed to be their rights, without denouncing the brethren on either side.

It is the intention which constitutes the crime, and we say no intention to do a wrong—though the act might be wrong. Without allowing our feelings to be enlisted, we maintained only the right, as it appeared to our understandings. May the new union, when consummated, be made with a cement upon which time shall have no effect.

But there is another cloud in the horizon of our brethren of New York. The Grand Lodge of Hamburg has granted, and refused to withdraw, a charter to Pythagoras Lodge—a Lodge in the city of New York, formerly under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York.

When the Grand Lodge of New York shall become legally organized, it will be the duty of Pythagoras Lodge to acknowledge allegiance to that Grand Lodge. The members of that Lodge are said to be highly intelligent and respectable—and we cannot, therefore, suppose that they will aid in producing discord among the fraternity, but they will voluntarily surrender their charter to the Grand Lodge of Hamburg in due time.

Since writing the foregoing, we have learned that harmony has been restored between the members of the Willard and Phillips Grand Lodges, but we have not yet the information in such an authentic shape, as would authorize the recommendation of any action of this Grand Lodge, except in a conditional form.

LOUISIANA.

It will be remembered, that the Supreme Council of the 33d Degree of the

Free, Ancient and Accepted Scotch Rite for the Valley of New Orleans, as it calls itself, claimed exercised jurisdiction, not only over the higher degrees belonging to the French and Scotch Rites, but also over the first three degrees of these Rites, which correspond, in name at least, with the first three of the York Rite; that in 1833, this Council renounced its authority over these three degrees in the Scotch and French Rites, in favor of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana; that that Grand Lodge exercised the power of granting charters, to hold Lodges in the different Rites, and govern them through different chambers, or committees, up to 1850; that in 1848 this Grand Lodge, believing that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana had erred in recognizing and legalizing the Scotch and French rites as Ancient Free Masonry, and particularly in accumulating them under her charge; that this recognition and accumulation of these Rites made the danger most imminent to the purity and even the life of Ancient York Masonry in that State; that instead of there being a Grand Lodge enjoying the sovereign power over the Symbolic Degrees within that jurisdiction, owing to the close union produced between the Supreme Council and the Grand Lodge, the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge being the chief officer of the Chapter and Supreme Council, and owing to the form of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, the government was really in the hands of the Supreme Council—and this Grand Lodge, listening to the complaints of our Ancient York brethren, the greater body of whom disapproved of this accumulation of rites, after years of petitioning by our Ancient York brethren, and finding there were no hopes of relief to be obtained from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, finally resolved to interfere, and did so by withdrawing her recognition of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, and granted dispensations and charters to brethren in Louisiana. It is also known that the Lodges thus established, formed the Louisiana Grand Lodge, and that in our last report we announced the union of these two Grand Lodges on terms satisfactory, as it was said, to our Ancient York brethren.

As you were then informed, no official notice of this union was transmitted to us last year. Upon learning this fact, the Grand Master of the united Grand Lodge, Bro. Gedge, immediately caused certified copies of the whole proceedings relative to the union of both Grand Lodges, and the Constitution of the united Grand Lodge, to be transmitted to your Grand Secretary, apologizing for the apparent neglect, which it appears, was caused by the failure of the committee appointed for that purpose to discharge its duty.

The great act of the union, was the abolition of all distinctions between the different rites; the Grand Lodge, renouncing, by a formal resolution, the right to constitute Symbolic Lodges, other than as Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons. Subsequently the new Grand Lodge called a convention of Master Masons at Baton Rouge, to propose a new Constitution. There was a general representation in the Convention, of the several Lodges, and of the different rites in that State, and a Constitution was formed. This Constitution is now the fundamental law of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

Bro. F. Calogne, acting Grand Master, in his opening address, says that they have forty-five Lodges chartered, and five under dispensation, and he "feels proud to say that the increase of the Craft is of such a character as will do credit to the institution at home and abroad, and contribute to the propagation of its pure, noble and elevated principles."

He mentions the fact that three of their Subordinate Lodges, Polar Star Lodge, No. 1, Amigos del Orden, No. 3, and Disciples of the Masonic Senate, No. 5, have surrendered their charters to the Grand Lodge, and have received new charters under the authority of the Supreme Council of the 33d Degree, at New Orleans, who claim the right to establish Lodges of the Scottish and modern Rites, since, as they contend, that the Grand Lodge had renounced them.

He states that these same Lodges were represented at Baton Rouge, and aided in the formation of the present Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and gave their consent thereto, and which Constitution makes the Grand Lodge of Louisiana a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and that nothing can be recog-

nized but Ancient Freemasonry, consisting of the three Symbolic Degrees, and that it is also "forbidden to tolerate any distinction derogatory to the character in which it is constituted, and that every regular Lodge must be held under charters from the Grand Lodge."

The question raised by the defection of these three Lodges, was referred to a committee, the majority of which committee reported against the right of the Supreme Council to charter Lodges of the Symbolic Degrees.

A member of Polar Star Lodge appeared at the door of the Grand Lodge as a visitor, but was refused admittance, on the ground that he was a member of a clandestine Lodge.

So far, then, as the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, and the Lodges which are or may be constituted by the Supreme Council of the 33d degree, or by the bodies subordinate thereto, the question is settled; but Grand Master Gedge propounds the following questions to this Grand Lodge:

1. "Can this Council of the 33d Degree of the Scottish Rite, lawfully constitute Lodges of Symbolic Masonry in Louisiana, within the jurisdiction of that Grand Lodge?"

2. "Will the fact that they are constituted as Lodges of the Scottish Rite, make any difference?"

3. "Are Lodges so constituted entitled to be recognized as legally constituted? Are the members of such Lodges, and those initiated therein, lawful brothers, and entitled to visit and communicate with the Grand Lodge and its constituted Lodges?"

Some question has been made, whether this Supreme Council is itself a legally constituted body. This is a question, whatever may be our opinions as individuals, your committee are not competent to decide, being ignorant of the laws which govern that Order. We only know that there are two other Supreme Councils in the United States, who claim exclusive jurisdiction, one over the Southern, and the other over the Northern States, who claim and acknowledge each to be regularly constituted, and deny legality to the body at New Orleans, and that the Council at New Orleans claims to be the only legal Supreme Council in the United States. It is said also, that the two Supreme Councils, whose Grand Easts are respectively at Charleston and New York, as well as the Supreme Council of the 33d Degree of the Scottish Rite in Scotland, refrain from exercising authority over the Symbolic degrees, within the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge. It is also known that other Supreme Councils do not thus refrain; that the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite includes the whole 33 degrees, as practiced in Europe, including the Symbolic Degrees; that this Council at New Orleans claimed and exercised jurisdiction over these degrees, as we have before said, in the Scottish and French Rites; that that Council surrendered the jurisdiction over the Symbolic Degrees, as above mentioned, to the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, and that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, in 1850 passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary of this Grand Lodge shall immediately inform the Supreme Council of the SS.: GG.: II.: GG.: 33d Degree, meeting, at New Orleans, that this Grand Lodge renounces, now and forever, to constitute any Symbolic Lodges other than as Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons.

That the present Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana requires uniformity of work, and tolerates no distinction of Rites. In plain words, the majority of the Grand Lodge being largely of the York Rite, the intention was to make the Grand Lodge of Louisiana a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, and we would not be astonished that the Supreme Council should think that the Grand Lodge had, by her resolution, renounced the Scottish and French Rites—had thrown them away, and those might pick them up who may, but from the fact that the Constitution formed by a Convention called by the Grand Lodge, declares "It [the Grand Lodge] shall have the exclusive right to constitute Lodges of Symbolic Masonry within the State." It may be, that they did not understand the extent of the power given to the Grand Lodge, and one

of these Subordinate Lodges protests that she instructed her delegate to surrender none of her rights; but the Constitution is plain, and the Lodge and its members being subject to the Grand Lodge before the Convention, and the change of the Constitution being in every respect clothed in the forms of legality, they cannot now be permitted to withdraw from the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge.

In our opinion, it would have been better to have used words incapable of misconstruction, in forming the compact; for all unions formed upon a misapprehension, whether from accidental or intentional ambiguity of language, are but cemented with untempered mortar, and it would be strange if some of the materials should not in time be found jostled out of place.

The Constitution reads that the Grand Lodge

"Is constituted as a Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and in that capacity, recognizes nothing but pure Ancient Freemasonry, consisting of the three Symbolic Degrees of Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, and is forbidden to tolerate any distinction derogatory to the character in which it is constituted.

The Scotch Rite Mason reads this one way, and the York Rite Mason another. The Scotch Rite Mason includes his Rite, when he speaks of "pure Ancient Freemasonry," but is excluded by him of York.

But we have answered the first question, (and upon the assumption that Lodges of the Scottish and Modern Rites, are Lodges of Freemasonry, the question being one of simple jurisdiction), that the Council of the 33d Degree of the Scottish Rite at New Orleans, cannot lawfully constitute Lodges of Symbolic Masonry in that State, within the jurisdiction of that Grand Lodge.

We humbly suggest that the answers to the second and third questions are fraught with too much interest to the whole Fraternity, to be lightly made, and with the dim lights before us, we are not sure that we shall come to any satisfactory result, or to any conclusion at all, in the remarks which we intend to make upon this question. We feel embarrassed, by our lack of full information upon the subject of the Scottish and Modern Rites, in the first three Degrees; and the answer to the question is determined by the fact, whether the Scotch or Modern Rite has so changed Ancient Freemasonry, in making the tour of the continent of Europe, as to render it difficult to recognize her original features. That some likeness is still preserved, we know from various sources of information; but the question is, has the Scotch Rite preserved the ancient landmarks of our Order? And does it differ from the Ancient York, only by a difference in some minor details of the ceremonies only? That it does differ only in these, was the opinion of the New York Committee in 1848, and hence that committee blamed this Grand Lodge for its action in regard to Louisiana, and said that they thought that the old Grand Lodge of Louisiana had done well in taking jurisdiction over those Rites, and had done what New York was endeavoring to do, viz: to unite the Masonic family into one body. On the other hand, we were told that the differences were great, that the association was highly injurious to Ancient York Masonry, and that Scotch, or French, or Modern Masonry, must be cut off. This is not a question of jurisdiction; it is not a question touching the legality of the organization of either the Supreme Council, or of the Subordinate Lodge; it is a question which relates to the object, laws and usages, as well as the government and ceremonies of the Scotch Rite.

Is it Freemasonry, or is it not? If not Freemasonry, then the answer is, that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana has no interest in the matter; no more than she has in the Lodges of Perfection, Chapters of Rose Croix, Grand Councils of the Princes of Jerusalem, or the Consistories established by the Supreme Council of the 33d Degree. If it be Freemasonry, such as the Grand Lodge of Louisiana can recognize, why did she renounce those Rites, and above all send a special renunciation to the Supreme Council? If the difference consisted in a mere irregularity in the work, it was a matter for correction, and not renun-

ation. We remember, some twenty years ago, when it was believed among Ancient York Masons, that the difference in the work in the different Rites, was wholly accidental, arising from a long separation and defects of tradition, and that a closer intimacy, a re-association, would bring our brethren of Europe back to the ancient work, and the York Constitutions.

We are now under the impression that we were deceived in the extent and character, if not the object, of the variations, and that the probabilities are against the holders of the Scottish and French Rites, surrendering their interest in those Rites, or merging them in Ancient York Masonry. It is certain that the day has not yet arrived, for us to see this work accomplished, or even commenced.

If it shall appear, that the Scottish and French Rites have departed so far from the ancient usages and laws, as to make it impossible to merge the rites, and have thus created a new order, Masonic only in name, then they and their followers must be separated from Masonic communion.

The degrees conferred under the authority of the Supreme Council are 32, commencing with the E. A., F. C. and M. M. Above the degree of M. M., branching off into degrees, with which as York Masons, we have no acquaintance. We have to deal, however, only with the first three of the degrees. It must not be understood that the Grand Lodge of Scotland confers degrees after the manner of the Scotch Rite.

There is a Supreme Council of the 33d degree as well a Grand Lodge in Scotland. The former confers the degrees of the Scotch Rite, but refrains, as we have said, from chartering Lodges of the symbolic degrees, within the jurisdiction of a Grand Lodge. If we are rightly informed, Free Masonry, after having passed through the continent of Europe, to England and Scotland, returned from thence at a much later date to the continent again, and was there transformed into the Scottish and French Rites, and the "higher degrees" pre-existing or manufactured subsequently to its second advent on the continent, were superadded. It is evident that considerable innovations had been made by the Grand Lodge at London, known as the "modern," if not by the other Grand Lodge created by the seceders from the Grand Lodge at London, known as the "ancient Masons." It is believed, however, that the seceders worked, or endeavored to work after the York Constitutions. The York Grand Lodge ceased to assemble in 1787. We are under the impression, that the New York Committee in 1848, were in error, however, in supposing that the French or Modern rite, as it is now called, is the same rite practised by the Grand Lodge of England, prior to the union of the "ancient" and "modern" in 1813. They spoke also of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, as though that Grand Lodge practiced what is called the Scottish Rite. This, we are informed, is not so.

We presume that we are permitted to draw information from all good sources, and though we may not agree with some of our New York brethren upon a point of constitutional law, or recognize the legality of the organization of their Grand Lodge, we entertain a high respect for their Masonic knowledge. We find in the report on Foreign Correspondence, in the proceedings of the Willard Grand Lodge, in June last, the following on the subject of Foreign Rites, by their new Committee:

"We hold that Masonry is one entire body throughout the world. That all other degrees have sprung from, or been added to, the first three. That the first three are the only truly ancient, although some of the others are very old. That the first three ought to be practiced according to the York Rite. That is the truly ancient method, and the best. That departures from it were wrong, and are much to be regretted.

But as they exist in many countries, and are there the acknowledged rite in Masonry, this Grand Lodge decided many years ago, after laying the matter before the other Grand Lodges of the Union, and receiving assent from some, and dissent from none,* to recognize the Grand Lodges under which such rites

* The subject was never considered in this Grand Lodge.

in the first three degrees, exist—and accordingly did so. This was also done by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland, Scotland and Germany. This Grand Lodge, and some others in the Union, are in fraternal intercourse with several Grand Lodges of the French and Scottish Rites. The members of those rites are therefore held as Masons by us, and entitled to the rights of fraternity."

Again, relative to the Superior Degrees: "This Grand Lodge recognizes the superior bodies in this and other countries, having in charge Masonic degrees, as the Supreme Councils of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite and their Consistories, and the Grand and General Grand Encampments. But she claims sole jurisdiction in this State over the first three degrees in the York Rite, and objects to the practice of any other rite in these degrees within the same jurisdiction, should it be attempted, and admits of no right or claim of any other body or authority whatever, to do so. She holds fraternal correspondence with these bodies, but admits no authority in them to interfere with the craft degrees. She does not recognize suspensions or expulsions, pronounced in them, as of force, except in their own degrees; but, if necessary, will inquire into the circumstances herself, or by her Subordinates. But she desires to cultivate a good understanding with those bodies and their Subordinates, and with all Masons."

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence in New York in 1848, said emphatically, that "there was really no difference between the York and Scottish Rites discoverable on examination."

This is not the time to discuss the propriety of the anomalous position of the body to which these Committees belong, in these Rites, nor to reconcile the apparent differences of opinion.

We should be glad to believe, that the Committee in 1848 was truly informed, but we have before us the opinion of the Supreme Council of 33d degree at New Orleans in direct opposition, in the form of an address, delivered before that body last year, by Bro. Jas. Foulhouse, its chief officer, published by the authority of the Supreme Council, and copies sent to this Grand Lodge by its Secretary; and, whether that Supreme Council be legally organized or not, we must regard the Address as an authentic and correct exposition of the degrees conferred by that and other Councils.

Bro. Foulhouse says—"Others for want, I suppose, of proper instruction, have presumed that there exists between the first three of the York and Scottish Rites—a similarity which justifies the fusion of the latter into the former. A brief sketch of the ritual and purposes of each of them, will soon put an end to this material error in any unprejudiced and unprepossessed mind."

Again he says—"It is a material error to assert, that there exists an absolute similarity in the three first degrees of Masonry in the York and Scottish Rites."

After taking what our author would call "a perfunctory course of intimations," on the Ancient York, or Solomonian degrees as he denominates them, he adds: Then it is evident that the Rite of York is most ancient, and as such entitled to our most sincere and most respectful homage. Any person who strictly and exclusively adheres to the time anterior to Christ, and considers that the superstructure of the Solomonian Masonry upon the primitive or natural Free Masonry, from the establishment of which we date our works, is and ought to be the *ne plus ultra* of Masonic ability and perfection; and that, out of the Solomonian sanctum, there is nothing to be looked for, is fully authorized to hold the ancient rite of York as best of all."

"There are now many Masons, both in Europe and America, who hesitate not to assert that beyond the three first degrees, such as they existed from the beginning, that is, long before King Solomon himself, there is no Free Masonry, and that every true Mason, of whatever rite he may be, ought to contribute his best efforts to bring it back to its former origin and principles."

But the author doubts, that if so reduced, it would suit the natural propensities of man, and would soon cease to exist. He therefore is the advocate of progressive Free Masonry, and argues that the Scottish Rite is better than the

York, as being founded upon the principles of the Christian religion, and the York upon the Solomonian. The differences between the two rites are easily seen, he says, by following with attention the Masonic Manual, or Tyler of the Scotch Rite, published in Paris in 1830. He adds, "In the same manner as he (Solomon) did better and improve primitive Masonry by ingrafting into it the Mosaic Masonry, so did our Grand Master, Christ, ingraft into the Solomonian tree the Christian Cion, or Masonry, which is that of our (Scottish) Rite, under the foliage of which every one can find a shelter. Then the tree is ours from root to top, and we cannot give up its roots without breaking its trunk, and scattering its branches to the wind."

If this were a matter affecting two or three Lodges only in New Orleans, under this testimony he might easily dispose of this case; but we find that nearly all of our European brethren are of these Scotch and French Rites, and that their Lodges are legally constituted. Heretofore, within this jurisdiction, brethren of these Rites have been admitted to our Lodges, and have claimed and received the privileges thereof. It is of moment to know, if the landmarks have been removed, how best to have them re-established by the fraternities of the Scottish and French Rites, whether by recognizing or excluding them; whether they are to be treated as spurious Masons, or welcomed as of the household of the faithful. It is very questionable, whether their exclusion is not the logical result of your action, in establishing Lodges in Louisiana.

But we are not prepared to recommend any action at the present time, and hope that none will be had, until the opinions of our sister Grand Lodges shall be made known, as this is a question which requires unity of measures to make the answer efficient.

We can only now answer the Grand Master of Louisiana, by saying, that if the Scottish Rite be Ancient, Free and Accepted Free Masonry, it makes no difference; but if the Scottish Rite degrees are not degrees of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masonry, then it makes a vast difference; for the Supreme Council might issue an indefinite number of charters to Scotch or Modern Rite Lodges, and it should receive no more of the regard of the Grand Lodge, than the issuing of so many charters for Lodges of Odd Fellows or Sons of Temperance.

To carry out our views, we have subjoined to this report, a resolution relative to the three Lodges chartered by the Supreme Council at New Orleans, for the consideration of the Grand Lodge.

We pass to matters of less importance.

The Louisiana Committee of Foreign Correspondence, in giving an opinion favorable to the Willard Grand Lodge of New York, which they do without any statement or argument, say: "We do but express the views of all the Masonic world, who have examined the question, or are open to conviction." There is the appearance of a lack of courtesy in this remark towards the Grand Lodges of Ohio, Georgia, California, Saxony, and this Grand Lodge, if it be meant that these bodies intentionally close themselves to the conviction of the truth, as well as error in the statement. It may be true, that these Grand Lodges were not then nor now open to conviction upon shallow or unsound reasoning, or even good reasoning upon false premises; nor convinced by mere dictum, how high soever the authority may be held. It is easy to float down the stream with the multitude, but it requires moral courage and manly exertion to stem the current of error. If this Grand Lodge prefers the latter course upon the question referred to, it is because she has a keen sense of justice, which forbids the recognition of a wrong and an unjust principle. She believes also that the surest way to settle disputes and cultivate harmony, is to do strict justice. She acts from her convictions, and certainly after a full examination in this case, but may sometimes err; but when convinced of that error, she will at no time hesitate, we are confident, to announce that conviction also. But we know the Chairman of the Committee of Louisiana too well to suppose any intentional discourtesy was intended.

That Committee, as have several other Committees in other States, have dis-

cussed the tight of the Grand Master to confer degrees at sight. Some contend that he could not, at any time, unless in a regular Lodge, with all the formalities, etc. In Louisiana, they admit the power, and say that they understand that he can do it upon an emergency, and with the assistance of a regular number of brethren; that he could by virtue of his authority confer the degrees without the candidate making any formal application; but that none of the fundamental requirements of the Order could be dispensed with.

We may be in error, but we have thought that this was a power heretofore always possessed by the Grand Master, and that with or without the aid of brethren, he could confer the several degrees. That the object of this power was two-fold. First, to enable him to lay the foundation for new Lodges in neighborhoods where there were either no brethren, or an insufficient number to form a quorum for the transaction of business, as is done by the Inspectors General of the Scottish Rite at the present day. Second, that he might initiate kings, princes and members of the nobility, to act as patrons of the Order who might not feel inclined to pass through the ordinary ceremonies, in open Lodge.

We do not feel disposed to legislate this power away; but as the reason for its exercise has ceased to exist, we should think it wholly inexpedient, at the present day, and with Lodges in almost every neighborhood, for a Grand Master in the United States to make use of this power.

We find that the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, by a resolution reported by a committee, reprobates the practice of electioneering for Masonic offices, as unmasonic.

There appears to us an exception to the orthodox character of the new Constitution of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, in Section 1, Article I. It is as follows:

This Grand Lodge is constituted and established by the Lodges and brethren of this State, as the representative governing authority, and it can have no existence independent of their will, or in opposition to it.

We, perhaps, cannot contend against the right of the sovereign Masonic power in Louisiana, forming a Grand Lodge to grant the right to exercise such power as the sovereign power may see proper to confer; but the Grand Lodge thus formed is, unquestionably, a different body from Grand Lodges as originally organized. The sovereign power is no longer in the governing power, but in the governed. This, we conclude, is all very right and proper in the political world, and is good democracy, but we have no desire to see Free Masonry assume the protean shapes of civil organizations, nor the Grand Master become a mere Speaker of a House of Representatives. Free Masonry is an institution *sui generis* in its forms and in the power of its officers. The government of a Lodge is not that of a despotism, nor a democracy, nor exactly a elective monarchy, but perhaps approaches nearer to this last mentioned form of government than to any other.

By the Constitution, all the Past Grand Officers and Past Masters, not actually in the Chair, are excluded from the right to vote, but may sit in the Grand Lodge and take part in its deliberations. But we see an amendment to the Constitution is now pending to restore all the old Past Grand Officers and Past Masters, who were members of the Grand Lodge under the old Constitution, to membership again.

KENTUCKY.

The Grand Lodge of Kentucky has found itself compelled, by a financial pressure, to close the Collegiate Department of the Masonic University at La Grange. The Medical School at Louisville is still continued. This is a matter of profound regret. The design was a noble one; but it appears that our sister of Kentucky made an under-estimate of the expenses of such an Institution, and an over estimate of the resources of the Grand Lodge. No Institution can rank as a college, and be provided with buildings, apparatus, and a suitable number of professors, with a less endowment than \$150,000. For the buildings

are costly, and the annual expenses cannot be less than from \$15,000 to \$24,000. It is an undertaking not lightly to be entered into. The soliciting of contributions, as well as the sale of scholarships, is a total failure. Then the amount of good obtained is greatly disproportioned to the amount of the expenses, particularly if we consider, that by a different appropriation of the same amount of money to schools, in the neighborhood of each Lodge, the beneficiaries would be increased ten-fold. We regret, however, the failure, for if it had been successful, much good would have been done.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky say, that that Grand Lodge has no powers excepting those granted by the Constitution, and therefore cannot confer degrees. It makes the Grand Lodge the subject of the Subordinate Lodges, as in Louisiana.

Our view has been, that Grand Lodges possess all the powers of the Ancient General Assemblies, except such as have been limited by the Constitution. Power flows from the Grand Lodge and not to it. The Subordinate Lodges in the United States had all their powers given to them originally, by some one of the then existing Grand Lodges—the officers of a certain number of these Subordinate Lodges met, representing the Lodges and the Fraternity, and organized a Grand Lodge—and at the moment of organization, the original powers of a Grand Lodge attached, the Subordinates surrendered their charters and received new ones. If the Grand Lodge, by its By-Laws, refuse to exercise any of the powers properly its own, it certainly has the right so to do. It is the sovereign Masonic power within its jurisdiction. There appears to be a constant tendency to assimilate the Masonic to the civil government, which, we think, will ultimately do much injury to Free Masonry. It has flourished under its ancient form of government—it is not wise to experiment upon it, and by all means, let us not borrow political maxims from the hustings.

The Grand Lodge of Kentucky has adopted the following new regulation :

"If any Mason within the jurisdiction of any Subordinate Lodge, be guilty of any gross unmasonic conduct, and absconds, so that notice cannot be served upon him, charges may be preferred against him, which shall lie over three months, and if the Secretary shall report that he cannot serve notice upon him, he shall enter a denial of the charges upon the record, and some brother shall be appointed to defend him, and proof may be taken, and the case tried, as if he were present."

The Grand Lodge of Kentucky answers the first and third questions of the Grand Master of Louisiana in the negative ; and to the second, says that the fact that the Lodges are constituted in the Scottish Rite, will make no difference.

By a new regulation, when there are more than one Lodge in any town, no initiation shall take place without all the Lodges in that town receiving previous notice.

The Grand Lodges of Kentucky and Indiana, are about taking measures for the joint erection of a monument on the battle ground of Tippecanoe, to the memory of Daviess, Owen and other Masonic brethren, who fell there in the battle of November 7th, 1811.

GEORGIA.

The Grand Secretary of Georgia reports the whole number of chartered Lodges in that State to be 143 ; number of members, 6140—an increase, in one year, of 1530. Initiations same time, 1664.

Some remarks have been made upon the forms of expression in our published proceedings, relative to adjournments, but it will scarcely be thought that our brethren in Georgia improved much upon them, when "the Lodge declared itself at ease for the space of half an hour."

The particular attention of this Grand Lodge is called to the following resolution, adopted by the Grand Lodge of Georgia :

Resolved, That the Subordinate Lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand

Lodge of Georgia, be instructed not to initiate, pass, or raise, any candidate, who has not resided in the State of Georgia twelve calendar months before such application be made; and that the expediency and propriety of adopting a similar rule, be earnestly recommended to our sister Grand Lodges of the United States, as being one means of preventing unworthy men of gaining admission or access to the threshold of our mystic temple.

This rule, except that it is a little too stringent, as laid down in the resolution, is to be approved. A good exception to this rule might be found in gentlemen who have actually made a change of residence, and whose characters are well established in the places from which they came, as evidenced by their letters of introduction, etc.

We have finished our brief survey of the transactions of the Masonic Fraternity during the past year. So even has been the tenor of the way of some of the Grand Lodges in correspondence with us, neither overstepping nor breaking down any of the landmarks, as to present no salient point to attract attention, so that we have made no allusion to them. All appear to have made improvement in their knowledge of the character and objects of Free Masonry, as appears by the numberless addresses and reports before us. We have been enabled to note but the more important of the facts and questions of Masonic law and usage, regretting that the character of this report forbade us to gather a few even of the many flowers, with which our path has been made pleasant and our labors light.

We offer the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge cannot recognize as legally constituted Lodges, Polar Star Lodge, No. 1, Los Amigos del Orden, No. 5, or Les Deciples du Senate Maconique, No. 3, of New Orleans, but declares them clandestine Lodges, and hereby forbids the Lodges and Masons of this jurisdiction to hold any Masonic communication with said clandestine Lodges or the members thereof.

Resolved, That the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodges over the first three degrees, in the United States, has been too long settled to be co-extensive with their respective State lines, to be now disturbed, and all Lodges established therein without their authority, are clandestine Lodges.

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge hails with great pleasure the re-organization of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, as a Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons, and that we most cheerfully confirm the action of our Grand Master in recognizing said Lodge, and restoring our friendly relationships.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. P. MELLE, Grand Secretary,
Ex-officio Chairman of Committee.

On motion the report was received.

Bro. Stokes offered the following:

Resolved, That the report be referred back to the committee, with instructions to strike out so much of the report as relates to the New York difficulties, with the exception of the Hamburg case.

The question being upon the adoption of the resolution, it was decided in the negative. The report was then agreed to.

On motion of Bro. J. P. Jones,

Resolved, That C. C. Allen, Worshipful Master of Thomastown Lodge, No. 124, be allowed to amend the returns of said Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Cothran,

WHEREAS, at the last Grand Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge,

the 33d and 34th Articles of the General and Permanent Regulations of the Grand Lodge, relative to taxing non-affiliated brethren, were rescinded; therefore,

Resolved, That the Lodges, subordinate to the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, who have suspended non-affiliated brethren for failing to contribute to the charity of said Lodges, under said 33d and 34th Articles, while in force, be and they are hereby authorized to reinstate said brethren, at the discretion of such Subordinate Lodges.

On motion of Bro. Robinson,

Resolved, That Louisville Lodge, No. 75, be allowed until the next Grand Communication to pay the dues from said Lodge for the past year.

Bro. Patrick presented the following report of the Special Committee on Pikeville Lodge, No. 85:

The committee appointed on the resolution providing for the remission of the dues of Pikeville Lodge, No. 85, for the year 1849, beg leave to report, that they deem it inexpedient to grant the remission of said dues, but recommend that Pikeville Lodge, No. 85, be allowed until the next Grand Annual Communication to pay said dues.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. P. JONES,
N. WOODWARD,
J. C. PATRICK,
Committee.

The Grand Lodge then adjourned until 9:30 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

FRIDAY, January 23, 1852—9:30 o'clock, A. M.

The Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi met pursuant to adjournment. Present as before.

On motion of Bro. Gray,

Resolved, That Bro. John S. Henley, the Representative of Magnolia Lodge, be released from the payment of thirty dollars, which was entrusted to him by Polar Star Lodge, U. D., to pay for their charter, if granted, in consideration of the unavoidable loss of his pocket-book containing that money, as well as his own funds to a larger amount; and that a charter be issued to Polar Star Lodge, without any further charge, on the condition, that, if the money be found, the full amount of fees be paid to the Grand Lodge.

On motion of Bro. Jack,

Resolved, That the sum of twenty-five dollars be and is hereby appropriated for the relief of Coleman Lodge, No. 29.

Bro. Ford presented the following report of Committee on Complaints and Appeals:

Your Committee have had referred to them the following cases, and report as follows:

No. 1. A communication from W. Master and Secretary of Lamar Lodge, No. 148, asking of this Grand Lodge advice as to the propriety of receiving into fellowship, Maj. W. R. Puckett, a Master Mason, hailing from Moulton Lodge, Alabama. Your Committee regard this communication as singular and

unnecessary. As the brethren of that Lodge seem not to know their duty in this respect, your Committee recommend, that they may be advised that they have the privilege and right to admit to membership, any Master Mason, in good standing, who exhibits a regular dimit from the Lodge whence he hails, or gives satisfactory evidence of the loss of his dimit.

No. 2. Communication from Oakland Lodge, No. 82, complaining of George Washington Lodge, U. D., as having been guilty of an infraction of the Constitution, in initiating a member within the jurisdiction of Oakland Lodge, No. 82. But that said Lodge had promised not to repeat the infraction, and they recommended the delinquent Lodge to the clemency of the Grand Lodge. We recommend that these Lodges be advised of the pleasure of the Grand Lodge, in learning that relations of amity are restored between them, and that the Grand Lodge indulges the hope, that in future these friendly relations will not be disturbed.

No. 3. Case of A. Gordon vs. H. L. Meacham--appeal from Salem Lodge, No. 45. On examination of the record in this case, your Committee are of the opinion, that the evidence is not sufficient to sustain the decision of the Lodge below. The evidence is of such a character, as, if true, did not justify the measure of punishment adjudged; but at most, in the opinion of your Committee, would have justified sentence of reprimand. It is by no means sufficient, however, in the opinion of the Committee, taken altogether, to justify a reprimand. Another fact disclosed by the record is, that the proceedings of the Lodge below were not strictly regular, having, on motion of the prosecutor, granted a new trial, upon suggestions insufficient, after the defendant had been acquitted. Your Committee, therefore, recommend, that the decision of Salem Lodge, No. 45, be reversed, and that the appellant be restored.

No. 4. A resolution referred to the Committee in the following words: "*Resolved*, That this Grand Lodge restore George D. Patterson, a citizen of Covington county, residing under the jurisdiction of Olive Branch Lodge, No. 34, who was expelled from St. Alban's Lodge, No. 60, for unmasonic conduct, to all the benefits and privileges of a Master Mason." Your Committee have had no evidence submitted to them, in support of this resolution, and cannot recommend its adoption. They, therefore, ask leave to report it back to the Grand Lodge, and be discharged from the further consideration thereof.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. S. SPANN,
SAMUEL FORD,
J. A. HARRISON,

G. STOKES,
N. G. BRYSON,
C. R. CRAWFORD,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

On motion of Bro. Speight,

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed, who shall be authorized to have printed, in the usual manner, eight hundred copies of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge at its present Communication; and that the Grand Secretary receive and settle for the same, when published, and distribute them as usual.

Bros. Speight, Mellen and Spann were appointed on said committee.

On motion of Bro. Johnson,

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary request the newspapers in this State to publish the resolution, adopted by this Grand Lodge at the last Communication, relating to the centennial celebration of the initiation of Washington, by the Subordinate Lodges.

Bro. J. P. Jones, for committee, presented a report of special committee on Moses Cook Lodge, No. 111:

The special committee, to whom was referred the petition of Moses Cook Lodge, No. 111, asking for six months to pay her dues to the Grand Lodge, recommend that the request be granted.

On motion of Rev. Bro. D. S. Wood,

Resolved, That Alamutcha Lodge, No. 130, be permitted so to change its By-Laws, as to change the time of holding the meetings of said Lodge, from the 3d Saturday in each month, to the 3d Thursday, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

On motion of Bro. Cook,

Resolved, That Quitman Lodge, No. 18, have until the first day of April next to report and pay their dues, and, if made by that time, that the Grand Secretary be authorized to examine said report, and cause the same to be printed in the general proceedings of this Grand Communication; and that Charles Scott Lodge, No. 136, have until the next Grand Annual Communication to pay their dues.

On motion of Bro. Hillyer,

Resolved, That the sum of seventy-nine dollars, thirty-six cents, be appropriated to Bro. Youngblood, as an additional amount in payment of his services as printer of the proceedings of the last Annual Communication.

On motion of Bro. J. N. Caruthers,

Resolved, That Pikeville Lodge, No. 85, be permitted to change the time of her regular Communications, from the 1st to the 3d Saturday in each month.

On motion, the sum of one hundred dollars was appropriated, for necessary repairs of the Masonic Hall for the ensuing year.

Report of special committee on Masonic Districts :

The undersigned, members of the committee, to whom was referred the subject of dividing the State of Mississippi into Masonic Districts, beg leave to report, that they deem it expedient and important to the interests and welfare of the Masonic Fraternity generally, and within this jurisdiction especially, to carry into effect the provisions of the 2d section of the 5th article of the Constitution, which reads as follows, to-wit :

"The Grand Lodge shall have the power to divide the State into Masonic Districts, and to appoint a District Deputy Grand Master to each District thereof, whose duty it shall be, to visit the Subordinate Lodges within her jurisdiction, once in each year, and make report to this Grand Lodge, at its annual communication in each year, the situation of the Lodges visited by him."

And they recommend to this Grand Lodge, the adoption of the following Regulations, to-wit :

1. It shall be, and is hereby made, the duty of the Grand Master, within thirty days after the adjournment of the Grand Lodge, to appoint a suitable number of District Deputy Grand Masters, and assign to each a specified number of Lodges, designating them by name, not exceeding ten Lodges to each Deputy.

2. The Grand Master shall thereupon notify the said Deputies of their appointment, and they shall report to the next meeting of the Grand Lodge, as required by the above section of the Constitution.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. COOPER, Chairman,
CHAS. KOPPERL,
SAMUEL FORD,

GEO. STOKES,
R. P. BOWEN,
L. BOOTHE,

Committee.

On motion the report was received.

Bro. Hill moved that the report be recommitted, with instructions to amend the report, so as to provide that the District Deputy Grand Masters, to be appointed in accordance with the recommendation of said committee, shall teach the York Work and Lectures adopted by this Grand Lodge in 1847, and taught

by Bros. Thos. Smith, Webb, Jeremy L. Cross, James Cushman, and James Penn.

Bro. Hill's motion was laid upon the table.

Report of the Minority Committee on Masonic Districts :

The undersigned, a part of the Committee of Thirteen, appointed by this Grand Lodge to report upon the propriety of dividing the State into Masonic Districts, and appointing a Deputy Master to each, have given the subject, as we hope, that deliberation which its importance demands, and ask leave to submit the following report, to-wit :

The main and only object to be attained by this Grand Lodge, as your committee conceives, is uniformity of work throughout this jurisdiction. Your committee believe that the only true method of arriving at this is to have a Grand Lecturer, whose work shall be approved by this Grand Lodge, or by the Grand Master. Let the State be divided into a convenient number of districts, one of which may be assigned to a Deputy Grand Lecturer, who may be commissioned as such, upon the certificate of the Grand Lecturer. In this way, and this only, can we expect anything like uniformity.

Your committee do not believe that if the State be districted, and Deputy Grand Masters assigned to each, that they will attend to and discharge the duties of their appointment.

For these reasons your committee would respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to divide the State into Masonic Districts, as provided for by Section 2, Article V, of the Constitution.

J. P. JONES.

Which, on motion, was received.

Bro. Youngblood offered the following as a substitute to both reports :

WHEREAS, it appears to this Grand Lodge that there exist manifest and increasing discrepancies in the many different forms and modes of work and lectures throughout the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge ; and

WHEREAS, it appears that after years of deliberation and patient labor, intended to produce uniformity in work, it is manifest that we are further from the point than we were at the outset, and it is now clearly evident that we can no longer look with confidence to any of the "greater lights" of the day to produce that desirable end, but must look to some other source for the accomplishment of this object ; therefore

Resolved, That the Grand Lodge select some intelligent member, who makes no pretensions to know anything about the present modes of work and lectures now extant, and that he be directed to proceed to the city of Boston, to the old Warren Lodge, and that he remain with that Lodge until he is perfected in the work and lectures.

Resolved, That the sum of ——— dollars be appropriated out of any moneys in the treasury, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of said delegate while performing the above named services.

Resolved, That said delegate be and he is hereby required not to visit any other Lodge, nor converse on the subject, except with members of said Warren Lodge, until the next meeting of this Grand Lodge, when he shall report to this Grand Lodge.

On motion, the preamble and resolutions were laid upon the table, and the report presented by Bro. Cooper was adopted.

Bro. Fitz offered the following :

Resolved, That the conducting of the work of the Subordinate Lodges under this jurisdiction, be left to the sound discretion of the Masters of the respective

Subordinate Lodges, they being responsible to this Grand Lodge for any deviation from the ancient customs, usages, and landmarks of Masonry.

Bro. Ford presented the following report of Committee on Complaints and Appeals, on communication of Bro. T. Coopwood :

Your Committee, on examination of this case, find that the records of this Grand Lodge disclose the following facts : At the regular Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, for 1849, your Committee find that said T. Coopwood, by the judgment of the Grand Lodge, "stood suspended from all the rights and privileges of the Order, until his case be definitely settled" by Columbus Lodge, No. 5, to whom the case was referred, and a trial *de novo* awarded said Coopwood. Again, in the proceedings of the regular Annual Communication for the year 1851, we find in the returns of Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, the name of Thomas Coopwood returned as a member of said Lodge. Again, in the annual returns of Aberdeen Lodge, No. 32, to the present Communication of this Grand Lodge, we find that Thomas Coopwood is returned as dimitted from that Lodge, during the year 1851. From these facts, your Committee are of opinion, that the complainant must have been fully reinstated and relieved from the suspension he complains of, by the action of Columbus Lodge, No. 5, to whom the Grand Lodge referred the matter in 1849. Under this state of facts, disclosed by the record referred to, your Committee cannot find anything justifying this application. The applicant states, that he has been suspended without notice of the appeal and without a hearing, and has no knowledge that he has been reinstated. The applicant must be aware of the action of Columbus Lodge, No. 5, on this reference in 1849, and of his membership in Aberdeen Lodge, in 1851, and of the fact that he obtained in 1851, from the last mentioned Lodge, a dimit as a Mason in good standing.

He seems, however, not to be content with anything short of a regular reinstatement by this Grand Lodge. This your Committee regard as not proper for this Grand Lodge to do, everything necessary having already been done by the Subordinate Lodges, as hereinbefore referred to.

Your Committee regret to have to report, that one sentence of the communication of the applicant in this case, seems to them strange if not censurable, which is this, "If I am not placed *rectus in curia* by the Grand Lodge, I must seek another channel to communicate to the Masonic world my true standing." Whether the applicant is ambitious to have unusual and extraordinary attention given to him by this Grand Lodge, or whether a desire to indulge in a spirit of defiance, at the expense of this Grand Lodge, prompted this equivocal passage, your Committee find no excuse for it, and suggest that to them it appears not strictly courteous to this Grand Lodge.

Your Committee therefore report, that the application be disregarded.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHAS. S. SPANN,
SAM. FORD,
N. G. BRYSON,

C. R. CRAWFORD,
GEO. STOKES,
J. A. HANSON,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and adopted.

Report of the Committee on Subordinate Lodges :

The Committee on Subordinate Lodges beg leave to make the following additional report :

The returns of Summerville Lodge, No. 133, have been examined and found correct. They ought not to have reported Thomas W. Reed as dimitted, he being an officer the past year ; but as they have also accounted for his dues as a member, the aggregate amount of dues is correctly stated, and the said Lodge should report him as dimitted in their next annual report.

The Committee have also examined the By-Laws of said Lodge, and recommend the adoption of the following amendmients :

Article IX, Section 1, add to the end of said Section, the words "except in cases of emergency."

In Article XII, strike out all of Section 3.

The remainder of said By-Laws are approved by the committee.

The returns of Charles Scott Lodge, No. 136, are found to be correct, except that the attestation, which should have been made by the Worshipful Master, is made by the Senior Warden.

The Committee recommend that the amendment to the By-Laws of Willis Lodge, No. 92, changing the time of meeting from the first to the third Saturday of each month, be approved.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

RICHARD COOPER, Chairman.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Report of Committee on Lodges Under Dispensation :

The proceedings of Washington Lodge, U. D., have been examined by the Committee, in which we find the same errors as in some already reported on, that of suspending the By-Laws for the purpose of acting on petitions on presentation, and conferring the degrees at the same meeting, without dispensation or emergency, which have already been condemned in the former report. They recommend the following amendments to their By-Laws: Strike out of Sec. 1, Art. 2, all after the words "for the purpose." Strike out all of Sec. 8, Art. 3. Also, all of Sec. 5, Arc. 5, after the word "degree," and all of Sec. 1, Art. 14.

In the former report, it was recommended, that when the necessary documents were received by the Grand Secretary, that he be authorized to examine the same, and if approved, to issue a charter accordingly. They having been received and laid before the Committee, relieves the Grand Secretary from the duty, so far as this Lodge is concerned. We therefore recommend that a charter be issued to the petitioners.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. H. GRAY, SR., Chairman,

J. W. SCARBOROUGH,

Committee.

On motion, the report was received and agreed to.

Bro. Kopperl presented the account of Bro. Kendrick, as Grand Steward and Tyler, amounting to seventy-nine dollars and — cents.

On motion, the account was referred to the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, to audit the same, and if found correct, the Grand Treasurer was instructed to pay the same. The account was audited, allowed and paid.

No further business appearing, after prayer by the Rev. Grand Chaplain, the Grand Lodge of the State of Mississippi was closed in Ample Form.

WM. P. MELLEN, Grand Secretary.

RETURNS OF LODGES.

FIRST RETURN OF EACH LODGE, FROM THE ORGANIZATION OF GRAND LODGE, TO THE YEAR 1852.

HARMONY LODGE, No. 1—NATCHEZ.⁹

Chartered by Grand Lodge of Kentucky, in the year 1801, as No. 7; surrendered said
Charter August 25th, 1818; and chartered by Grand Lodge of Mississippi
on same date.†

First Return to Grand Lodge of Mississippi—Jan. 2, 1819, to Jan. 2, 1820.

Officers.—Henry Tooley, W. M.; Woodson Wren, S. W.; James Foster, J. W.,
Jacob Eiler, Treasurer; Harry Cage, Secretary; John Henry K. Newman, S.
D.; James Roman, J. D.; Joseph Newman, S. and Tyler.

Past Masters.—Sam'l Postlethwaite, Elijah Smith, Henry Postlethwaite, Chris-
topher Rankin.

Members.—Christopher Miller, Andrew Marschalk, C. F. Stiles, John R.
Girault, Bela Metcalf, Reuben Newman, Harmon Blennerhassett, Wm. B.
Shields, Joseph B. Lyons, Richard Pearse, John L. Buck, Thos. B. Reed, Robert
Alexander, Joseph E. Davis, Jonathan N. Robinson, Joseph Dunbar, Ebenezer
Howell, Jas. A. Girault.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—John Henry K. Newman, Harry Cage, Luther
Boyden, James Watson, Jr.

Initiated and Passed.—Littleton Henderson.

Passed.—James Tooley.

Initiated.—Jacob Tomblinson, Wm. Sherman, John Routh, Wm. Patten,
Robert Stewart.

Affiliated.—Walter M. Leake.

Dismissed.—David Matthewson.

GRAND SECRETARY'S OFFICE, 1
SPRINGFIELD, ILLS., March 28, 1870. †

TO J. L. POWER, GRAND SECRETARY:

* * * * On consulting the history of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky, I find that that
Grand Lodge chartered a Lodge at Natchez, styling it as No. 7, in the year 1801. The name
assigned was Harmony. This Lodge surrendered its charter in August, 1816. Kentucky
chartered a Lodge at the same place, styled Harmony Lodge, No. 33. This Lodge, as I un-
derstand it, is now No. 1 on your register. * * *

Fraternally,

JOHN C. REYNOLDS,
Deputy Grand Secretary and Historian Grand Lodge Illinois.

† [Extract from Past Grand Master Hillyer's Semi-Centennial Address.]

The Grand Lodge of Kentucky chartered Harmony Lodge, No. 7, at Natchez, October 16,
1801. Petition of Seth Lewis, James Ferral, Arch'd Lewis, James Hoggatt, John Hardeman,
David Lattimore, William Mitchell, was presented and granted, and Harmony, No. 7, estab-
lished. Dec. 27, 1803, made return to Grand Lodge of Kentucky; acknowledged as having
been received after March, 1804. August 30th, 1814, Harmony, No. 7, surrendered its char-
ter, in consequence of some confusion in the Craft. August 30, 1815, a new dispensation was
issued, and it was chartered in the same year as No. 33.

RETURN TO GRAND LODGE OF KENTUCKY FOR 1803.

Officers.—Seth Lewis, W. M.; James Farrall, S. W.; William Brooks, J. W.; David Lattimore, Treasurer; John Girault, Secretary; St. James Beauvais, S. D.; Israel E. Trask, J. D.; Joseph Newman, S.; William Mitchell, Tyler.

Past Master.—Isaac Guion.

Members.—Archibald Lewis, Ebenezer Bredish, Abijah Hunt, Samuel Postlethwait, David Michie, George Fisher, Jo. A. Parrott, Jo. W. A. Lloyd, William Connor, James Hoggatt, David Nesbit, Joseph Vidall, Nathan Dix, Joseph Baldwin, Elijah Smith, Benjamin Wilkinson, George Newman, Samuel Seaton, John Wade, Benjamin Spitzer, William Bruin, John Dick, David B. Morgan, Abner L. Duncan.

Fellow Crafts.—Samuel Neil, Ezekiel Towson, Edmund Wooldridge.

Entered Apprentices.—Abner Ellis, Jesse Carter, David Ferguson, Richard King, Israel Smith, John Collins, James Dunbar, Benjamin Seamons, Walter Burling, Hamilton Seaton, James Sterritt.

Expelled.—Benijah Osmun, Feb. 7, 5803.

ANDREW JACKSON LODGE, No. 2—NATCHEZ.*

From December 12th, 1818, to December 11th, 1819.

Officers.—Edward Turner, W. M.; James Lombard, S. W.; Stephen Carter, J. W.; John Glover, Treasurer; J. D. Cochran, Secretary; Geo. R. Williams, S. D.; Arthur Brown, J. D.; Wm. T. Walker, S. and Tyler.

Past Masters.—Anthony Campbell, James Whitehead.

Members.—Edmund Andrews, Thomas Baker, Edward Broughton, James Berthe, John Corn, Bailey E. Chaney, J. T. Chaney, A. Collins, Robert Fagan, H. Green, John Glover, N. Hopper, Wm. Johnson, David Lowry, George Mellor, John Munce, James McClellan, John Nichols, J. H. Rollins, John Smith, Grove B. West, J. F. Witherspoon, E. D. Yates, Sam'l Morton, John Vaughan, James Perkins, Wm. T. Walker, Ar. Williams, J. Hall, Chas. B. Thomas.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Wm. T. Walker, Joshua Hall, Jesse Guice.

Initiated and Passed.—Chas. B. Thomas, Michael Williams.

Initiated.—Ar. Smith, Peter Corbell, Sam'l W. Butler.

Passed.—Joshua H. Rollins.

Raised.—E. D. Yates, James Perkins, J. Brown.

Affiliated.—Wm. Jones, Oran C. Dow.

Dimitted.—S. Miller, E. E. Yates, Andrew Collins, James Whitehead.

WASHINGTON LODGE, No. 3—PORT GIBSON.

For the Year 1819.—(First Return to Grand Lodge of Mississippi.)

Officers.—Israel Loring, W. M.; Claudius Gibson, S. W.; Jas. Hughes, J. W.; Orran Faulk, Treasurer; Thos. Cotten, Secretary; Cornelius Haring, S. D.; Bennet M. Hines, J. D.; Geo. Fisher, S. and Tyler.

Past Masters.—D. D. Downing, Sam'l Hoyt, Henry G. Johnson, Walter Leake, Walter M. Leake, A. K. Shaifer, Amos Whiting.

* [EXTRACT FROM THE RECORDS GRAND LODGE OF TENNESSEE, OCTOBER 8, 1816.]

The Grand Secretary communicated to the Grand Lodge that the Most Worshipful Grand Master had issued the following dispensations: " To Jackson Lodge, No. 15, Natchez, Mississippi Territory, on the 13th August, 1816. " "

Brother Wm. D. King, from Jackson Lodge, No. 15, presented a petition from said Lodge, praying for a charter, and at the same time presented a copy of their proceedings, which were approved, and a charter ordered to be issued, their dispensation having been returned.

Brother King moved that the name of Jackson Lodge be altered to that of Andrew Jackson Lodge, No. 15, which was accordingly done.

Members.—John Buel, Joshua G. Clarke, Wm. R. Chambliss, Gadi Gibson, Geo. W. Humphries, John Henderson, John L. Irvine,* Thomas O. McDonald, Simeon Newman, Isaac A. Newman, R. B. Newman, John Patterson, Isaac Pearse, Jacob Seagrest, Isaac H. Smith, Wm. Scott, James Whittaker, Wm. Young, Joseph Nichols,* Ambrose F. Gibson, Richard Robinson, B. W. M. Minter,* Alfred Faulk.*

Initiated.—Isaac Ross, Lewis Segrest.

Passed.—Randall Gibson, James Vanhorn, John H. Shanks, Elisha Green Lea.

Withdrawn.—Nathan Chunn, P. M.

Suspended.—Elam H. McDonald, for 6 months; Wm. Ray, F. C., 4 months.

Died.—Benjamin Newman, October 27, 1819.

CHARTER OF WASHINGTON LODGE, "NO. 17."

BY THE MOST WORSHIPFUL ROBERT SEARCY, GRAND MASTER.

To all and every one, Right Worshipful and loving brethren—GREETING :

Know Ye, that the Most Worshipful Robert Searcy, Grand Master, at the humble petition of our Right Worshipful and well beloved brothers, Walter Leake, Abraham K. Shaifer, Nathan Chunn, J. G. Clark, Henry G. Johnson, Orran Faulk, and John Patterson, residing at and near Gibson Port, in the Mississippi Territory, of the Ancient and honorable fraternity of Ancient York Masons, and for other reasons, moving our Most Worshipful Grand Master, do hereby constitute the said brethren into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, to be opened in Gibson Port, by the name of Washington Lodge, Number 17, at their said request; and of the great trust and confidence reposed in every of the said brethren, the Most Worshipful Grand Master, doth hereby appoint brother Walter Leake, Worshipful Master; brother Abraham K. Shaifer, Senior Warden; and brother Nathan Chunn, Junior Warden, for opening the said Lodge and governing the same. It is required of our friends, and Brother the Worshipful Walter Leake, to take special care that all and every of said brethren of your Lodge, as well as those hereafter to be admitted into our Body by your Lodge, be regularly made Masons, and that they do observe, perform and keep all the rules and orders contained in our Book of Constitution; and the Ancient Land Marks be strictly attended to; and further, that you cause to be entered in a book kept for that purpose, an account of your proceedings; which, when done, you are required to transmit to the Grand Master, with a list of those Initiated, Passed and Raised, or otherwise managed.

GIVEN at Nashville, under the Great Seal of Masons, this 19th day of April, A. L., 5817, A. D., 1817.

Signed

ROBERT SEARCY,
Grand Master.

Attest :

W. TANNEHILL, Grand Secretary.

GIBSON PORT, June 26th, A. L., 5817, A. D., 1817.

Pursuant to a dispensation from Robert Searcy, Esquire, M. W. Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, dated April 19th, A. L., 5817, A. D., 1817, the following Master Masons convened in their Lodge in the aforesaid Town to organize the Lodge and install the officers, to-wit: Walter Leake, Abraham K. Shaifer, Nathan Chunn, Isaac Loring, Joshua G. Clark, Henry G. Johnson, Orran Faulk, Bennet M. Hinds, Chilion F. Stiles, and Henry Tooley, W. Master of Harmony Lodge, No. 33, etc.

The Lodge was opened in Ancient form, in the Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master's Degrees, and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Past Master present, that Brother Walter Leake, the Worshipful Master elect had never received the Degree in legal form, all but Past Masters having retired, that Degree was conferred upon him by R. W. Henry Tooley, according to the ancient ceremonies of that Degree, in the presence of Past Masters Israel Loring, Abraham K. Shaifer, and Henry G. Johnson.

The Craft having returned to the Lodge, our R. W. Brother Henry Tooley, by virtue of a commission from the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, proceeded to install the Worshipful Walter Leake, Master; Abraham K. Shaifer, Senior Warden; Nathan Chunn, Junior Warden; Israel Loring, Treasurer; Joshua G. Clark, Secretary; Henry G. Johnson, Senior Deacon; Orran Faulk, Junior Deacon, and Bennet M. Hinds, Tyler, according to the Ancient Ceremonies of Masonry, and the Lodge proclaimed by the name of Washington Lodge, No. 17, and set to work.

On motion, the By-Laws were read, amended and passed unanimously. There being no further business, the Lodge was closed in the three Degrees of Masonry in Ancient form.

Israel Loring,
A. W. Putnam,
Joseph Nichols,
James Onaham,

James Hughes,
W. Scott,
Robert Smith Steele,
G. W. Keller,

P. A. Vandorn, Jas. Cornell,
A. K. Shaifer, Oran Faulk,
Josiah Newman, Jno. Cottingham,
Wm. A. A. Chambliss,

* Those marked thus, had applications for affiliation pending.

WARREN LODGE, No. 4—VICKSBURG. (1820).

Dispensation granted, —, 1820; Chartered, January 1, 1821.

Officers.—Adam Cloud, W. M.; John Foster, S. W.; Thos. F. McKay, P. M.; J. W.; Benj. M. Bullen, Treasurer; Robert Cocks, Secretary (died); Jas. Whitehead, S. D.; Wm. Harper, J. D.; Wm. Gillaspie, S. and Tyler.

Past Master.—Jas. Whitehead.

Members.—Jas. T. McGruder, Nathaniel Ives, Thomas Baker, James R. Whitney, Elihu Kilpatrick, John H. Shanks, Thomas Hinds, Filmer W. Green, Philip A. Gilbert, John A. Davidson, Chas. H. Jourdan, Wm. L. Davis, Cowles Mead, John B. Peyton, Levi C. Harris, George Robinson, James Chambers.

Affiliated.—Thos. Bakes, James R. Whitney, John H. Shanks.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Elihu Kilpatrick, John A. Davidson, Philip A. Gilbert, Chas. H. Jourdan, William L. Davis, James Chambers, John B. Peyton, Geo. Robinson, Levi C. Harris.

Passed and Raised.—Thos. Hinds, F. W. Green, Cowles Mead.

Rejected.—Alexander E. McDonald, Truman Roberts.

COLUMBUS, No. 5—COLUMBUS. (1822).

Dispensation granted, —, 1821; chartered, January 8, 1822.

Officers.—Gideon Lincecum, W. M.; R. D. Haden, S. W.; John H. Nurris, J. W.; Silas Brown, Treasurer; Ovid P. Browne, Secretary; Titus Howard, S. D. John B. Raser, J. D.; B. C. Barry, S. and Tyler.

Past Master.—Thomas Sampson.

Members.—Edward Kerren, John Pitchlyn, Jr., Thomas Townsend, David Folsom, Wm. Cocke, Wm. W. Bell, John Pitchlyn, Sr., Greenwood Leflore.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—John B. Raser, Jas. H. Caldwell, Thos. Raser, Lemuel G. Sanderson, Daniel Lawrence, Greenwood Leflore, Andrew Morrison, Wm. M. Kincaid.

Affiliated.—John Pitchlyn, R. P. B. Caldwell.

Dimitted.—Littlebury Hawkins, John Botts, James H. Caldwell, Lemuel G. Sanderson, Thomas Raser, Wm. M. Kincaid, David Lawrence, R. P. B. Caldwell, Andrew Morrison.

ASYLUM, No. 6—WOODVILLE. (1822).

Dispensation granted, —, 1821; chartered, January 7, 1822.

Officers.—Josiah Y. Smith, W. M.; Benj. Eccles, S. W.; Francis Gildart, J. W.; Daniel Slack, Treasurer; Geo. H. Gordon, Secretary; Lemuel Miles, S. D.; Wm. Callihan, J. D.; Gershom Fairchild, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Hiland Hulburd, Joseph I. Scott, Geo. B. Collier, Willis Drake, John C. Quick, James George, Richard Pearce, Wm. Haile, James Shaffer, Platt Baylis, Ammon Burr, Alexander Cochrane, Franklin Nutter, John Joor, John B. Posey, Robert W. Walker, Wade F. Richardson, Wm. P. Perkins, Abram M. Feltus, Joseph Johnson, Wm. Yerby, Hiram Singleton, John S. Wilson, Wm. Mansfield, John L. Bruce, James A. E. Phelps, John G. Clark, Jesse Hattan, James Quine, Wm. L. Cason, John G. Bryan, T. B. I. Hadley, David Callihan, John Y. Callihan, Michael Holliman, John Benton, Drury B. Fuqua, Lazarus Drake, Benj. H. Lewis, George Poindexter, Jas. Wilson.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—A. M. Feltus, Hiram Singleton, Daniel Slack, Michael Holliman, John S. Wilson, John B. Posey, Wm. P. Perkins, Wm. H. Clardy, Wade H. Richardson, James Wilson, Benj. H. Lewis, James Quine, John L. Bruce, Eugene Magee, John J. Clarke, James A. E. Phelps, Robert

W. Walker, John G. Brian, Ezekiel Howell, Wm. Brooks, Jesse Haltan, Wm. Callihan, Wm. L. Cason, David M. Callihan, Thos. B. J. Hadley, Drury B. Fuqua, Geo. H. Gordon, John G. Calliham, Bluford Brooks, Wm. A. Richardson.

Dismissed.—Wm. H. Clardy, Henry Moore.

Died.—Ezekiel Howell, Wm. Langley, Isaac Dillahanty, Master Masons; Wm. Brooks, E. A.

RISING VIRTUE, No. 7—HOLMESVILLE, PIKE COUNTY. (1822).

Dispensation granted, ———, 1822; chartered, January 6, 1823.

Officers.—John Burton, W. M.; Wm. P. Harris, S. W.; Nelson Higginbottom, J. W.; Sam'l C. Barbone, Treasurer, James E. Martin, Secretary.

Members.—Sam'l Higginbottom, John Harlee, James Campbell, Henry Hurst Thos Fayette, Wm. Orr, John Black, J. W. Ferris, Geo. Poindexter, Isaac H. Wright, Thos. Burton, James Houston, James Ellis, Wm. Gardner, Daniel Kisey, Buckner Harris.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Wm. P. Harris, John Black, J. P. Ferris, James C. Martin, Sam'l C. Burton, Thos. Burton, Daniel Kisey, James Ellis, Thos. Fayette, Buckner Harris, Wm. Orr, John Norman, James Houston, Wm. Gardner, Isaac H. Wright.

COVINGTON LODGE, No. 8—LIBERTY, AMITE COUNTY. (1823).

Dispensation granted September 27, 1823; chartered January 7, 1824.

Officers.—Henry Hurst, W. M.; Minor M. Whitney, S. W.; Iverson G. Lea, J. W.; Eli M. Robinson, Treasurer; Isaac H. Wright, Secretary; Solomon Weathersby, S. D.; Henry Jones, J. D.; John Lowry, S. and Tyler.

Members.—John M. Clark, Wm. Gardner, Hardin D. Moore, Lodrick Weathersby.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—John M. Clark, Hardin D. Moore.

Initiated.—Halsey Arnold, Geo. P. Butler, T. H. Cochran, Wm. H. Dobbins, Crawford Downes, Joseph Dittoe, Edmund J. Felder, Olean Hicks, Thomas Meredith, Peter H. Murcalus, Wm. McGehee.

Dismissed.—Henry Hurst, w. m.

Rejected.—Samuel Green, Reverius McCloy, Alexander Simmons, Edwin R. Witherspoon.

HIRAM, No. 9—WASHINGTON, ADAMS COUNTY. (1824).

Dispensation granted, ———, 1824; chartered January 3, 1825.

Officers.—1824.—Joseph Dunbar, W. M.; Linnaeus Dupuy, S. W.; George Newman, J. W.; Robert Turner, Treasurer; William B. Melvin, Secretary; John C. Paine, S. D.; John B. Peyton, J. D.; William Bramhall, S. and Tyler.

Officers.—1825.—Joseph Dunbar, W. M.; James Smith, S. W.; William Dixon, J. W.; Wm. B. Melvin, Treasurer; George Davis, Secretary; Fleming Wood, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Hector R. Ames, George Davis, William Dixon, John Hazlip, Ezekiel Newman, James Smith, James Tooley, Samuel L. Winston, Fleming Wood, Moses Wanzer.

Initiated and Passed.—James Bisland.

Raised.—Ezekiel Newman.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Hector Ames, William Dixon, Chatham Hurst, Moses Wanzer, Fleming Wood.

Died.—Louis Winston, August 20, 1824.

Dimitted.—John C. Paine, Linnæus Dupuy.

FRANKLIN LODGE, No. 10—VICKSBURG. (1825).

Dispensation granted January 3, 1825, chartered January 2, 1826.

Officers.—1825.—Wm. Gillespie, W. M.; Thos. Anderson, S. W.; ——— J. W.; Alvin B. Clark, Treasurer; Henry Morse, Secretary; ———, S. D.; Wm. L. Sharkey, J. D.; Wm. B. Cook, S. and Tyler.

Officers.—1826.—Wm. L. Sharkey, W. M.; Thos. Anderson, S. W.; Henry Morse, J. W.; Wm. R. Bay, Treasurer; Wm. H. Benton, Secretary; Jefferson Clark, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Samuel Atchison, Joseph Ball, Wm. R. Bay, Wm. H. Benton, James R. Blunt, Jefferson Clark, Wm. Cochran, Andrew Haynes, Jacob Hyland, Fleming Maynard, Charles S. Spann, Robert M. Spann, Jas. Templeton, Benjamin Walton, Ezeck D. Walcott, Belfield Wrenn.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Wm. H. Benton, Benjamin Walton, Charles S. Spann, Wm. R. Bay, Jefferson Clark, Samuel Atchison, William Cochran, Andrew Haynes.

Passed and Raised.—Fleming Maynard, Robert M. Spann.

Initiated and Passed.—James Stewart.

Initiated.—Wm. Pescod, Archibald Robertson.

Raised.—Joseph Templeton.

Dimitted.—Wm. V. Ingraham, Jas. Gibson.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, No. 11—FRANKLIN COUNTY. (1825).

Working, "at the house of Bartlett Ford, under dispensation granted January 3, 1825; chartered January 2, 1826, the Lodge then "working at the house of Bro. Richard Bein.

Officers.—1825.—George C. Slocumb, W. M.; Richard Bein, S. W.; Daniel Farnham, J. W.; Jesse Guice, Treasurer; James C. Hawley, Secretary; Dempsey P. Cain, S. D.; Hiram S. Pickett, J. D.; Reuben G. Gibson, S. and Tyler.

Officers.—1826.—Richard Bein, W. M.; John Cameron, S. W.; Rufus K. Pickett, J. W.; Bartlett Ford, Treasurer; John F. Weatherspoon, Secretary; Dempsey P. Cain, S. D.; James C. Hawley, J. D.; Jonathan Russell, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Ransom Bunkley, John Cameron, James C. Cain, Thos. Cotton, Bartlett Ford, John W. James, Moses King, Michael King, James J. Maxwell, Peter G. Miller, Thomas K. Pickett, John Porter, Rufus K. Pickett, Eli M. Robinson, Jonathan Russell, John F. Weatherspoon.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—James C. Cain, John Cameron, Ransom Bunkley, Michael King, Rufus K. Pickett, Martin H. Peyton, Bartlett Ford, Jonathan Russell, Peter G. Miller, Thomas N. Frarin, John Porter.

Raised.—Thomas R. Pickett.

Died.—Martin H. Peyton, August 12, 1825.

Dimitted.—James Brown, Thomas N. Frarin.

LAFAYETTE, No. 12—WINCHESTER, WAYNE COUNTY. (1825).

Dispensation granted, ———, 1825; chartered January 3, 1826.

Officers.—1825.—Thomas L. Sumrall, W. M.; Thomas S. Sterling, S. W.; Jas.

Patton, J. W.; Willis Lang, Treasurer; William B. Graham Secretary; Robt. C. Nebbett, S. D.; Thomas P. Falconer, J. D.; James Mayers, Alexander C. Powe, Stewards; Wm. Bell, S. and Tyler.

Officers—1826.—Thomas S. Sterling, W. M.; Thomas P. Falconer, S. W.; Alexander C. Powe, J. W.; Willis Lang, Treasurer; Wm. B. Graham, Secretary, —, S. D.; —, J. D.; John Evans, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Littleberry Brown, Daniel M. Caskill, John Evans, Anson Gleason, Moses Jewell, Wm. A. Lang, Daniel E. McRae, Samuel W. Patterson, Wm. H. P. Powe, Edwin C. Powe, Thos. M. Powe, James H. Swain.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Littleberry Brown, James Mayers, James H. Swain, Edwin G. Powe, Wm. H. P. Powe, Willis Lang, Wm. A. Lang, Thos. M. Powe, Daniel M. Caskill, Samuel W. Patterson, Daniel E. McRae, Isaac Caldwell, Alexander C. Powe, John Evans.

Initiated and Passed.—David Gage.

Initiated.—Stephen H. Lang.

MONROE, No. 13—COLUMBIA, MARION COUNTY. (1824).

Dispensation granted —, 1825; chartered January 3, 1826.

Officers—1825.—Ezekiel White, W. M.; Buckner Harris, S. W.; Wm. Linnias Fetter, J. W.; Vincent Murphy, Treasurer; Wm. Mellon, Secretary; Jesse Lott, S. D.; Geo. F. Degen, Frederick T. Collins, S. and Tyler.

Officers—1826.—Ezekiel H. White, W. M.; Buckner Harris, S. W.; Hugh McGown, J. W.; Vincent Murphy, Treasurer; Wm. Mellon, Secretary; Jesse Lott, S. D.; George F. Degen, J. D.; Wm. Linnias Fetter, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Thos. Downing, Jephtha Duke, Royal Degen, Zariastas Greswold, Benjamin Lea.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Hugh McGowan, Jesse Lott, William Mellon, Frederick T. Collins, Royal Degen, George F. Degen, Jephtha Duke, Thomas S. Sterling.

Initiated.—Joseph Sanderson, William M. Rankin, Johnston Silverburg.

Initiated and Passed.—Robert A. Lott, John Coleman.

Passed and Raised.—Zariastas Greswold.

ST. ALBANS, U. D—JACKSON, LA. (1826).

Dispensation granted 1827 (see page 59); dispensation surrendered to Grand Lodge, January 3, 1828, and the brethren recommended "to the maternal care of the R. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana.

Members.—Elisha Andrews, M. K. Allyn, Thomas L. Andrews, D. W. Babcock, David Bradford, James M. Brunot, Geo. W. Catlett, Parsons Carter, Bartlett Cook, Calvin W. Eason, A. B. Graham, Wm. A. Lane, Wm. J. McKneely, A. G. Scott, James Shaffer, W. Stubblefield, Fred Williams, Robert Whitaker.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—James M. Brunot, Parsons Carter, Wm. J. McKneely, D. W. Babcock, Thos. L. Andrews, William A. Lane, David Bradford.

Initiated.—Telfair Munson, John B. Horton, Thos. Norvill, George Noble.

Initiated and Passed.—John P. Gilbert.

Passed and Raised.—A. B. Graham.

Affiliated.—Robert Whitaker.

SELECTED FRIENDS, U. D.—CLINTON, L.A.* (1826).

Dispensation granted 1826, (see page 59: dispensation surrendered to Grand Lodge January 3, 1827, and the brethren recommended "to the maternal care of the R. W. Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana.")

Members.—Daniel Ayers, M. K. Allyn, B. M. G. Brown, Avery Breed, Redin Brown, James C. Brown, Daniel Beauchamp, Samuel Cobb, James P. Collins, R. M. Collins, John Deler, Benoni Dickey, Benj. Flint, Isaac E. Frierson, John G. Gerald, Benj. Graves, Jesse Lee, Benj. B. Lee, William H. Lyne, Lemuel P. McCawley, John Morgan, Morgan Morgan, John Nixon, Robert M. Pearce, William J. Paxton, James P. Perkins, John Rhodes, Lafayette Saunders, Wm. P. Satterfield, Thomas F. Sales, A. G. Scott, Samuel M. Simpson, Wm. Taylor, John C. White, Samuel W. Watkins, R. G. Wooten.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Lemuel P. McCawley, M. K. Ally, R. M. Collins, Lafayette Saunders, Benoni Dickey, Wm. P. Satterfield, Benj. B. Lee, Thos. F. Sales, John C. White, John Deler, Wm. J. Paxton, John Morgan, John G. Gerald, Daniel Beauchamp, R. G. Wooten, Samuel M. Simpson, John Rhodes, Morgan Morgan, Benjamin Graves, Samuel W. Watkins.

Initiated.—Burrel Myers, Lewis Talbert.

Initiated and Passed.—William Chance.

Raised.—Jesse Lee.

Dimitted.—M. K. Allyn, Lemuel P. McCawley, Daniel Beauchamp.

* NOTE.—This Lodge appears to have been chartered, as No. 14, by the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, January 7, 1823, and made a Return for that year. Charter surrendered and accepted Feb. 17, 1829.

JEFFERSON, No. 15—RODNEY. (1827).

Dispensation granted, —, 1827; chartered, January 7, 1828.

Officers.—B. P. Sanders, W. M.; James Breant, S. W.; Thos. Grums, J. W.; G. W. Tullis, Treasurer; Samuel Barker, Secretary; Thomas Watkins, S. D.; Steph. Warner, J. D.; John B. Fennamore, S. and Tyler.

Past Masters.—B. P. Sanders, Lewis Clark.

Members.—N. L. Bouldon, Isaac T. Cates, F. W. Jones, Thos. A. McDonald, A. A. Mechan, Austin Nuff, G. H. Sellis, Thornton H. Shanks, F. Stannard.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Samuel Barker, A. A. Mechan, Thos. Watkins, Isaac T. Cates, Thornton H. Shanks.

Initiated.—John C. Miller, D. W. Thomas.

CLINTON, No. 16—CLINTON, HINDS COUNTY. (1827).

Dispensation granted, —, 1827; chartered, January 7, 1828.

Officers.—Daniel Comfort, W. M.; Douglas Wilkins, S. W.; Jacob B. Morgan, J. W.; Isaac Caldwell, Treasurer; Wm. C. Demoss, Secretary; Andrew L. Wills, S. D.; Henry G. Johnston, J. D.; Sandy Lindsey, Stewart; Major Craft, Tyler.

Past Master.—Henry G. Johnston.

Members.—Silas Brown, George B. Crutcher, Francis G. Hopkins, John Jones, James B. Kilbourn, Jacob J. H. Morris, Peter Saunders.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Jacob J. H. Morris, James B. Kilbourn.

Initiated and Passed.—Franklin E. Plummer.

Initiated.—Hiram G. Runnels, Joshua L. Perkins, Jn. Casey, Abner Carter, John A. Grunball, James Cobb, Thomas Satterwhite.

Raised.—Peter Saunders.

Affiliated.—Rev Daniel Comfort, Andrew L. Wills, George B. Crutcher.

Dimitted.—Felix H. Walker.

LEAKE, No. 17—BENTON, YAZOO COUNTY. (1828).

Dispensation granted, —, 1828, as "Benton Lodge;" chartered as Leake Lodge Feb. 17, 1829.

Officers.—Jesse S. Brown, W. M.; John M. McMorrough, S. W.; Gabriel Harrington, J. W.; Nathan Morris, Treasurer; Wm. P. Gadberry, Secretary; Richardson Bowman, S. D.; John J. Edwards, J. D.; Wm. Dickson, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Michael E. Davis, Joel A. George, John R. Holley, Robert S. G. Perkins, Joshua G. Parker, Thomas Queen, Coleman M. Roberts, Duke W. Wittsher.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Michael E. Davis, Robert S. J. Perkins, Joshua J. Parker, John R. Holley, Joel A. George.

Initiated.—G. G. Tumson.

Affiliated.—Duke W. Wittsher, Thomas Queen, Coleman M. Roberts.

QUITMAN, No. 18—GEORGETOWN, COPIAH COUNTY. (1829).

Dispensation granted, —, 1829; chartered, February 17, 1830.

Officers.—Thomas J. Catching, W. M.; Solomon R. Terrell, S. W.; Daniel Norman, J. W.; Wiley P. Harris, Treasurer; Wm. Dixon, Secretary; James Norman, S. D.; James Ellis, J. D.; Moses Grier, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Solomon Grier, Jeremiah Maxwell, Thomas J. Norman, Robert Wood.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Solomon Grier.

Initiated and Passed.—Augustus Catching.

LEAF RIVER, No. 19—AUGUSTA, PERRY COUNTY. (1829).

Dispensation granted, —, 1829; chartered, February 17, 1830.

Officers.—J. J. H. Morris, W. M.; Lewis Rhodes, J. W.; Hugh McDonald, J. W.; Abner Carter, Treasurer; George B. Dameron, Secretary; W. M. Purdue, S. D.; John Watts, J. D.; James Finley, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Edmund Futches, John McGaha, James Webb.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Edmund Futches, John McGaha, James Webb.

WESTERN STAR, No. 20—HINDS COUNTY. (1832).

Dispensation granted, —, 1832; chartered, January 9, 1833.

Officers.—E. H. Whitfield, W. M.; J. W. Wilson, S. W.; A. Lamer, J. W.; O. D. Battle, Treasurer; F. G. Hopkins, Secretary; T. B. Green, S. D.; L. B. Fort, J. D.; T. Flint, S. and Tyler.

Member.—Jacob A. Fort.

Initiated.—Ira Harris, James Scott.

Affiliated.—Thos. B. Green.

RAYMOND, No. 21—RAYMOND, HINDS COUNTY. (1832).

Dispensation granted, —, 1832; chartered, January 9, 1833.

Officers.—B. Rush Wallace, W. M.; Felix H. Walker, S. W.; Wiley Ledbetter, J. W.; Wm. C. Demoss, Treasurer; F. W. Baird, Secretary; George W.

Thatcher, S. D.; M. S. Breckenridge, J. D.; Calvin S. Bankston, S. and Tyler.

Members.—George W. Coffee, Cairo Epperson, Rufus W. Foster, John P. Gilbert, Wm. A. Lucas, Edward B. Noble, John B. Peyton, Jesse Redwine.

POLAR STAR, No. 22—WOODVILLE, WILKINSON COUNTY. (1832.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1832; chartered, January 9, 1833.

Officers.—James Lyne, W. M.; P. W. Farrar, S. W.; —, J. W.; A. M. Dunn, Treasurer; George M. Miller, Secretary; James A. Foster, S. D.; Jones H. Smith, J. D.; Lazarus Smith, S. and Tyler.

Members.—A. W. Allan, John C. Alexander, T. W. Cleveland, M. F. DeGraffenreid, Joseph A. Foster, Milo Ferrell, A. Ferguson, E. Feltus, Joseph Greene, P. M. Garrett, Lewis M. Garrett, George H. Gordon, Thomas Lyne, George W. Miller, George C. McWhorter, Oscar Pillitt, John Philbrick, Daniel Rice, Ch. Stewart, Alexander Smith, C. P. Smith, W. M. Smith, B. F. Scott, James M. Wood, Daniel Woodward, Robert M. Yerby.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—J. M. Wood, Milo Ferrell, Ch. Stewart, R. M. Yerby, P. W. Farrar, J. C. Alexander, D. Woodward, T. W. Cleveland, P. M. Garrett, W. M. Smith, B. F. Scott, L. M. Garrett.

Initiated—E. C. Woods, T. J. Smith, R. A. Neally.

Passed and Raised.—C. P. Smith.

Affiliated.—E. Feltus, A. Ferguson, James Lyne, A. M. Dunn, Ch. Stewart, Daniel Rice, R. M. Yerby, M. F. DeGraffenreid, J. H. Smith, J. Philbrick, Thomas Lyne, J. A. Foster, G. H. Gordon.

Expelled.—Theodore Slade, for gross unmasonic conduct.

Died.—Edward Feltus, Daniel Rice, Ch. Stewart.

PEARL, No. 23—JACKSON, HINDS COUNTY. (1834.)

Dispensation granted, April 17, 1834; chartered January 7, 1835.

Officers.—Upton Miller, W. M.; T. S. Salmon, S. W.; J. P. Gilbert, J. W.; Peter Callan, Treasurer; F. G. Hopkins, Sec'y; J. L. Stubblefield, S. D.; J. C. Blount, J. D.; G. W. Hively, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Silas Brown, B. W. Benson, W. H. Baley, S. P. Baley, J. F. Beasley, G. W. Cohen, W. P. Coleman, G. W. Channel, James W. Dougherty, O. C. Dow, Charles Edwards, C. A. Fulton, F. M. Fincher, W. P. Grayson, Hy. Hamblin, P. Hoff, H. A. Hall, A. R. Johnston, Selah Judd, C. C. Mayson, J. A. Malone, J. H. Mallory, J. P. Oldham, James Phillips, M. D. Patton, J. W. Pipes, T. A. Smith, James Scott, H. C. Stewart, J. B. Womack, S. C. Walker, S. R. Walker, R. W. Williamson, Z. P. Wardell, W. B. Wood.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—B. W. Benson, W. H. Baley, S. P. Baley, J. F. Beasley, G. W. Cohen, C. A. Folsom, H. A. Hall, Selah Judd, A. R. Johnston, J. A. Malone, J. P. Oldham, James Phillips, H. C. Stewart, S. C. Walker, Z. P. Wardell, G. W. Channel.

Initiated.—Chas. Edwards, J. B. Womack.

Raised.—J. W. Dougherty, R. M. Williamson.

Died.—Peter Callan, J. C. Blount.

Dimitted.—James Scott.

LEXINGTON, No. 24—LEXINGTON, HOLMES COUNTY. (1834.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1834; chartered, January 7, 1835.

Officers.—(1834).—Haskell Barrett, W. M.; Ira S. Mitchell, S. W.; Alvah Wil-

son, J. W.; Desse S. Ross, Treasurer; A. G. Otey, Secretary; A. H. Green, S. D.; Malcolm Dent, J. D.; John Reeves, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Robert G. Green, Joseph R. Plummer.

Initiated.—A. G. Green, F. Bostwick.

GALLATIN, No. 25—GALLATIN, COPIAH COUNTY. (1835.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1835; chartered January 4, 1836.

Officers.—S. H. Johnson, W. M.; A. A. Harvey, S. W.; Wm. Graves, J. W.; Mason Reynolds, Treasurer; John D. Rimes, Secretary; Alfred Price, S. D.; B. W. Hatch, J. D.; R. M. Graves, S. and Tyler.

Members.—James Graves, John Gustavus, Robert Hall, Wm. Robinson, Wm. R. Robinson, Wm. J. Willing.

Initiated.—Anthony Watts.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—John Gustavus, Robert Hall, Wm. Robinson; Wm. R. Robinson, Wm. J. Willing.

Admitted.—B. Harris, E. D. Learned.

VICKSBURG, No. 26—VICKSBURG, WARREN COUNTY. (1835.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1835; chartered, January 4, 1836.

Officers.—(1836).—John M. Henderson, W. M.; Elhanon W. Morris, S. W.; R. J. McGinty, J. W.; E. B. Scarborough, Treasurer; Abijah Downs, Secretary; Thos. Rigby, S. D.; J. N. Glidewell, J. D.; B. Casey, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Aaron Alexander, Roger P. McKennon, Vincent A. Lewis, Benj. F. Newman, William Scott, James H. Watts, John F. Broadnax, Joseph Coor-pender, J. M. Hooker, D. D. Monroe, James F. Macklin, Henry Morse, James Throwbridge, Thomas W. Watts.

Initiated.—H. Cain, A. J. McLeod, Robert Y. Rogers, Augustus Seeger, John M. Gilmore, James Noe, Peter E. Scott, Robert H. Turnbull, George B. Williams.

EASTERN STAR, No. 27—MONTICELLO, LAWRENCE COUNTY. (1835.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1835; chartered, —, 1836.

Officers.—(1836).—T. Y. Grinstead, W. M.; Arthur Fox, S. W.; Wm. Peebles, J. W.; W. Y. Grinstead, Treasurer; A. S. Arrington, Secretary; Solomon Sutton, S. D.; Arthur Smith, J. D.; John McGaha, S. and Tyler.

Members.—John H. Teunisson, Jos. W. Pendleton, John H. Oates, Robert Jelks, John S. Carson, John H. Hilliard, Edward Englehard, B. C. Buckley, Gilbert D. Gere, Jesse Burkhalter, Chas H. Fox, John B. Caldwell, H. N. Calhoun, Nathan Lee, Willis Lee, Henry Boyer, J. C. Collins.

Initiated.—M. W. Jefferson.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Arthur Smith, B. C. Buckley, J. S. Collins, Charles H. Fox, John B. Caldwell, Willis Lee, Henry Boyer, H. N. Calhoun, Nathan Lee, Robert Jelks, John S. Carson, A. S. Arrington.

CANTON, No. 28—CANTON, MADISON COUNTY. (1836.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1836; chartered, January 4, 1837.

Officers.—(1837)—W. Montgomery, W. M.; T. S. Salmon, S. W.; Thos. J. Catching, J. W.; J. Silverburg, Treasurer; S. D. Livingston, Secretary; D. B. Crawford, S. D.; David Sherer, J. D.; G. W. Meek, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Wm. Hoy, Jas. C. Napier, A. C. Gillespie, R. Nicholson, J. J. Hughes, Jesse Lincoln, Jos. Collins, F. W. Fincher, R. W. Harper, A. G. Hammack, Guilford Griffin.

Initiated.—W. Drane, T. Smith, B. L. Phillips, J. J. Henry.

Initiated and Passed.—John H. Rollins, W. Blalock.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—G. W. Meek, Guilford Griffin, A. G. Hammack.

Admitted.—J. J. Hughes, Jesse Lincoln, Jos. Collins, F. W. Fincher, R. W. Harper.

Died.—T. Smith.

COLEMAN, No. 29—BRANDON, RANKIN COUNTY. (1836.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1836; chartered, January 4, 1837.

Officers.—James Finley, W. M.; R. M. Hobson, S. W.; H. Cooper, J. W.; W. B. Word, Treasurer; Chas. A. Folsom, Secretary; John Tate, S. D.; Wm. Cooper, J. D.; J. T. Spencer, S. and Tyler.

Member.—R. C. G. Watkins.

Initiated.—Henry Franklin.

Initiated and Passed.—E. B. Davis, Robt. Maxey, A. A. Matheson, J. H. Harris.

Passed and Raised.—Wm. Cooper.

FITZ, No. 30—MADISONVILLE, MADISON COUNTY. (1836.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1836; chartered, —, 1837.

Officers.—James R. Russell, W. M.; F. M. Fincher, S. W.; L. McGann, J. W.; S. W. Jarvis, Treasurer; G. Griffin, Secretary; A. G. Hammack, S. D.; Wm. H. Stiger, J. D.; J. W. Wheeler, S. and Tyler.

Members.—J. E. Richardson, John D. Morris, William Robinson, Joseph Joplin.

GRENADA, No. 31—GRENADA, GRENADA COUNTY. (1837.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1836; chartered, after June, 1837.

Officers.—John A. Wilson, W. M.; James G. Blocker, S. W.; John Black, J. W.; R. Coffman, Treasurer; James Sims, Secretary; Samuel Smith, S. D.; John S. Browning, J. D.; A. S. Gamble, S. Tyler.

Members.—David N. Beck, Wm. M. Brown, R. T. Bayarley, Green Crowder, David E. E. Cuyler, H. N. Edmonds, Joseph W. Ellett, Joseph W. Green, Wm. Hunley, R. N. McFarland, H. M. Melton, N. S. Neal, Samuel Poole, Jas. M. Stanton, Freeman J. Smith, John Wright, Tobias Wolfe.

Initiated.—James M. Howard, John H. McRea, Thos. Goodrum.

Initiated and Passed.—David M. Beck, G. D. Mitchell.

Passed.—John H. Oliver, John Miller.

Passed and Raised.—R. N. McFarland.

Raised.—R. Coffman.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Samuel Smith, M. H. Melton, John S. Browning, Samuel Poole, W. M. Brown, James M. Stanton, Joseph W. Green, Green Crowder, R. T. Bayarley, Joseph W. Ellett, William Hunley, Freeman J. Smith.

Admitted.—R. Coffman, Samuel Smith, John S. Browning, Samuel Poole, H. M. Melton, David M. Beck, N. S. Neal, Wm. M. Brown, Joseph W. Green, Green Crowder, R. N. McFarland, Joseph W. Ellett, R. T. Bayarley, William Hunley, Freeman J. Smith.

Dimitted.—Allen Walker, Alexander Barksdale.

Died.—John W. Phillips.

ABERDEEN, No. 32—ABERDEEN, MONROE COUNTY. (1837.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1837; chartered, January 2, 1838.

Officers.—(1837)—David Hale, W. M., *p. t.*; Austin Pollard, S. W.; Nathan W. Walton, J. W.; George Wightman, Treasurer; James G. Williams, Secretary; Patrick Alexander, S. D.; J. Abbott, J. D.; Richard G. Hale, S. and Tyler.

Members.—John Ross, Adam J. Holliday, Parker Alexander, Thomas F. Ford, Alexander Baker, Daniel Burnett.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Richard G. Hale, Austin Pollard, John Abbott, Adam J. Holliday, Parker Alexander, Thos. F. Ford, Alexander Baker, Daniel Burnett, Geo. Wightman.

Passed.—Josiah A. Fox, John Ross, George D. May, George B. Sanderson.

Initiated.—Edmond P. Lipscomb, Wm M. Burton, George W. Coopwood, Jefferson W. Green, Richard A. Resin, A. M. Hardy, Carter T. Bumpass.

Officers.—(1838)—George Wightman, W. M.; Austin Pollard, S. W.; Thos. B. Pollard, J. W.

OXFORD, No. 33—OXFORD, LAFAYETTE COUNTY. (1837.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1837; chartered, January 3, 1838.

Officers.—James M. Howry, W. M.; James Parker, S. W.; Clayton Hayes, J. W.; Daniel Grayson, Treas.; Nathaniel S. Jennings, Sect'y.; Zebena Conkley, S. D.; John Brown, J. D.; Pat. H. McCatchen, S. and Tyler.

Members.—E. M. Brack, George W. Durden, Thomas V. Cannon, William Gordon, A. J. Harris, Jno. S. Hurt, A. B. Lambert, Nicholas P. Simms, Richard W. Wyatt.

Passed.—Thomas J. Dollahite, William Vanoy, Martin P. Erwin, William H. Smither, Richard M. Craig.

Initiated.—James F. Smith, John F. Harris, A. M. Rayborn, A. S. Denton.

Rejected.—Young G. Huston, Thomas W. Warren, William B. Sorrels.

OLIVE BRANCH, No. 34—WILLIAMSBURG, COVINGTON COUNTY. (1837.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1837; chartered, January 3, 1838.

Officers.—Gilbert D. Gere, W. M.; Jesse Burkhalter, S. W.; J. W. Hornsby, J. W.; Thomas Walls, Treasurer; G. D. Patterson, Secretary; S. F. Charlescraft, S. D.; Thomas H. Watts, J. D.; S. F. Charlescraft, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Thomas Hopkins, Reuben Watts, Jr., Andrew J. Leggitt, George Watts, John Watts, Jr., Noel S. Buckley.

Initiated.—H. A. Leggitt.

Initiated and Passed.—Aaron Lowe, Willis Watts, John Burkhalter, William B. Patterson, Reuben Watts, Jr.

HOLLY SPRINGS, No. 35—HOLLY SPRINGS, MARSHALL COUNTY. (1837.)

Dispensation granted —, 1837; chartered, January 3, 1838.

NOTE.—First returned to Grand Lodge, January, 1840, being for the years 1838 and 1839.

Officers.—John R. Wilson, W. M.; Levi McCrosky, S. W.; William J. Cain, J. W.; R. H. Pattillo, Treasurer; A. F. Carruthers, Secretary; B. I. Franks, S. D.; J. N. King, J. D.; John S. Allen, Tyler; Randolph Mott, Steward.

Members.—J. M. Glover, Robert Simpson, Thomas L. Sullivan, Vincent Harrison, T. R. Debutts, Alfred Simpson, James B. Taylor, W. J. Clark, James Somers, J. M. Sledge, O. D. Watson, L. H. Ashcraft, George Thompson, W. B. Means, J. L. Sutherland, Thomas Johnson, John R. McCarroll, B. D. Matthews, N. W. Scott, E. D. Walker, H. Ferrell, John Brown, Joseph T. Harrison, John Beaty, Lancaster Glover, E. H. Whitfield, Thomas J. Dye, William Dye, H. Thornton, F. S. Early, Thomas Westbrook, Thomas D. Mason, N. G. Carr, J. W. Maury, S. R. Barnes, Daniel McNeill, R. D. Baugh, L. Thompson, Warren Fuller, Joseph O. Walker, H. W. Glover, S. P. Burke, N. H. Darrell, W. P. King, T. M. Yancy, J. S. Curtis, W. Y. Goodall, John Swan, William Beauchamp, George A. Wilson, J. J. Hill, Thomas Ward, H. H. Means.

Fellow Crafts.—Joseph Mosby, W. B. Taylor, T. E. Whitfield, John S. Waddle, R. G. Kyle, A. J. Dargan, I. L. S. Ballen, Stephen Linch, T. K. Young, Joseph Glover, T. P. Thompson, C. C. Chein, Leonard Lanhorne, A. Gillis.

Entered Apprentices.—John C. Hill, W. G. Wynne, John J. Dewberry, W. D. Ellis, J. H. Nelson, J. N. McCampbell, A. Hester, J. N. Slaughter, A. H. Roach, — Dockery, B. C. Harley, R. M. McGuffee, Joseph Mason, James Colbert, Robert N. Christian, P. R. Kenna, E. W. Halton, M. M. Murphy, S. H. Oliphant, W. W. Wallace, C. H. Parham, Andrew Herron, Samuel W. Kingston, John W. Malone, John Dalzell, R. McDannold, W. G. Gibson, T. R. Horn.

CARROLLTON, No. 36—CARROLLTON, CARROLL COUNTY. (1837.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1837; chartered, January 3, 1838.

Officers.—William J. Brown, W. M.; V. Butler, S. W.; E. W. Wall, J. W.; J. F. Daviess, Treasurer; F. W. Porter, Secretary; W. Booth, S. D.; W. Blanks, J. D.; C. C. Thompson, S. and Tyler,

Members.—Titus Howard, Jeremiah Cooper, O. L. Kimrough, J. C. Latimore, J. L. Irwin.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Jeremiah Cooper, O. L. Kimbrough, J. C. Latimore.

Initiated and Passed.—W. C. Butler, A. Woods, A. J. Thomas, Samuel Hart, M. B. Hill, J. J. Hodge, A. R. Applewhite, Samuel Scott.

Initiated.—A. R. Drake, W. D. Ransom.

Admitted.—Titus Howard, J. L. Irwin.

LIBERTY, No. 37—LIBERTY, AMITE COUNTY. (1837.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1837; chartered, January 3, 1838.

Officers.—John Walker, W. M.; Edmond Carroll, S. W.; Wm. R. Carter, J. W.; Samuel Tillotson, Treasurer; O. W. Caulfield, Secretary; W. C. Harrell, S. D.; W. H. Dobyne, J. D.; M. M. Whitney, S. and Tyler.

Members.—A. Riddle, Isaac R. Caulfield.

Initiated. Passed and Raised.—O. W. Caulfield, V. T. Crawford, H. G. Street.

Initiated and Passed.—Thos. W. Pound, E. L. Bramblet, S. R. Davis, Theodore M. Wright.

Initiated.—David Pimble, Robert S. Torrence.

Admitted.—Haram D. More, Josiah D. Walker.

ANCIENT YORK, No. 38—VICKSBURG, WARREN COUNTY. (1838.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1838; chartered January 10, 1839.

Officers.—S. W. Vannata, W. M.; R. Y. Rogers, S. W.; S. Stafford, J. W.; John Thatcher, Treasurer; H. R. Pucket, Secretary; P. M. Thomas, S. D.; J. Littlejohn, J. D.; Samuel Lum, S. and Tyler.

Members.—D. Whitaker, S. P. Beasley, D. McGill, A. McLaurin.

Fellow Craft.—W. B. Sloan.

MONROE, No. 39.

Dispensation granted, January 10, 1839; chartered, —.

NOTE.—Regular communications of this Lodge were held at the house of John Nixon on the 4th Saturdays in each Month.

Officers.—John St. John, W. M.; John Nixon, S. W.; C. L. Nixon, J. W.; William Jenkins, Treasurer; John McCraney, Secretary; John Callham, S. D.; William Nixon, J. D.; J. Nixon, S.; Benjamin Cook, Tyler.

Past Master.—Wiley Ledbetter.

Members.—Wesley Cook, W. D. Joyner, David Carter.

Initiated.—Henry Slade.

Passed.—James Edmondson.

MACON, No. 40—MACON, NOXUBEE COUNTY. (1839.)

Dispensation granted, 1839; chartered,

Officers.—Fred. C. Ellis, W. M.; Richard D. Barker, S. W.; Samuel Moore,

J. W.; Hugh Welsh, Treasurer; T. D. Wolridge, Secretary; Henry W. Flournoy, S. D.; A. Tanner, J. D.; John Bross, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Joseph Koger, Reuben H. Grant, L. Gilbert, Isaac D. Wellborn, Charles W. Allen, James Poindexter, Samuel Martin, Thomas J. Gadbury, Andrew J. Campbell.

Fellow Crafts.—Joseph W. Frith, W. W. Fort, Robert W. Bumpass, Jefferson Clements.

Entered Apprentices.—John D. Haynes, Richard E. Dismukes, W. H. C. Findley, A. Duberry, Charles B. Ames, V. M. Murphy.

Withdrawn.—Hugh Welsh.

GRAND GULF, No. 41—GRAND GULF, CLAIBORNE COUNTY. (1839.)

Dispensation granted January 10, 1839; chartered February 6, 1840.

Officers.—(1839) L. W. Ballard, W. M.; J. M. Scanland, S. W.; Dan. McDuggall, J. W.; J. J. Williams, Treasurer; W. C. Dickenson, Secretary; H. T. Palmer, S. D.; James McBeth, J. D.; John Whiteman, S. and Tyler.

Members.—A. C. Tait, George P. Applegate, John M. Duffield, W. B. Taylor, Robert E. Dickey, Thomas D. Howard, Fred. J. Pore, Ammanette Rollins.

Fellow Craft.—Elijah Conkling.

Entered Apprentices.—George I. Ballard, D. H. Turpin, William M. Smyth Daniel B. Patterson.

Rejected.—Edward Staats.

Died.—George I. Ballard.

YAZOO, No. 42.—YAZOO CITY, YAZOO COUNTY. (1839.)

Dispensation granted January 10, 1839; chartered February 4, 1840.

Officers.—J. W. Fuqua, W. M.; M. T. Hoff, S. W.; P. W. Nye, J. W.; John Evens, Treasurer; James M. Durlin, Secretary; J. A. Stephens, S. D.; W. T. Courtney, J. D.

Members.—W. H. Van Sant, John H. Evens, F. A. Knott, T. C. Levell, Jas. W. Barnett, A. B. Block, J. V. Caldwell.

Fellow Craft.—J. J. Swartwout.

Entered Apprentices.—A. A. Gibb, John W. Myers, T. J. Jackson, George Hahn, A. Wright, J. H. Wilson, R. E. Kays.

Rejected.—William E. Pugh.

SHADY GROVE, No. 43.—COPIAH COUNTY. (1839.)

Instituted August 14, 1839; chartered, Feb. 6, 1840.

(Return from August 14, 1839, to January 24, 1840.)

Officers.—Thos. A. Willis, W. M.; Daniel M. Massie, S. W.; John Terry, J. W.; William S. Wilson, Treasurer; Elias Alford, Secretary; William C. Menter, S. D.; Abr. Sellers, J. D.; Alex. McIntosh, Tyler.

Members.—Julius Alford, S. Ferguson, Evan Lewis, Jacob O. Haley, Sam'l Rowan, Wm. O. Terry, Wiley Thompson.

Initiated.—Thos. Carnac, Robt. Haley.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Evan Lewis.

BOWIE, No. 44—BOWIE, COVINGTON COUNTY. (1840.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1840; chartered, ———, 1841.

Officers.—John W. Hornsby, W. M.; Thomas Watts, S. W.; John Watts, jr., J. W.; Willis Watts, Treasurer; James Smith, Secretary; N. J. Ruckley, S. D.; G. W. Hopkins, J. D.; B. S. Watts, S. and Tyler.

Members.—John W. Thompson, Arthur Lott.

Initiated.—Absolem Watts, Abraham Allison.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—John W. Thompson, Arthur Lott.

SALEM, No. 45—SALEM, TIPPAAH COUNTY. (1840.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1840; chartered, ———, 1841.

(Report from October 24, 1840, to January 20, 1841.)

Officers.—John G. McDonald, W. M.; W. M. Hafford, S. W.; Thomas Tombs, J. W.; B. F. Young, Treasurer; William W. Burns, Secretary; Charles G. Wilcox, S. D.; Thomas N. Hunt, J. D.; Allen Adkins, S. and Tyler.

Members.—William L. Baird, John H. Crisp, William J. Ford, J. W. Matthews, Miles Wofford, George W. Meek.

Initiated.—Moses S. Hurt, A. J. McGowan, Samuel Miller, Elijah P. Mitchell, William Von Runnon.

Initiated and Passed.—Edward A. Warren, Thomas Jones, jr., John W. Adkins.

Raised.—John H. Crisp.

Withdrawn.—A. J. McGowan.

Died.—John J. McDonald.

BENJ. FRANKLIN, No. 46—MEADVILLE, FRANKLIN COUNTY. (1840.)

Dispensation granted, April 4, 1840; chartered, ———, 1841.

(Return from April 4, 1840, to January 23, 1841.)

Officers.—Patrick Lynch, W. M.; John Cameron, S. W.; William K. Ratcliff, J. W.; Robert J. Newman, Secretary, John M. Newman, Treasurer; ———, S. D.; George W. Lowry, J. D.; John D. Waschow, S. and Tyler.

Member.—Robert L. Torrence.

Initiated.—J. F. Witherspoon, Robert M. Newman.

Initiated and Passed.—James Lowry.

Passed and Raised.—William K. Ratcliff, Robert J. Newman.

RIPLEY, No. 47—RIPLEY, TIPPAAH COUNTY. (1840.)

Dispensation granted, Sept. 23, 1840; chartered, —, 1841.

(Report from September 23, 1840, to January 8, 1841.)

Officers.—Orlando Davis, W. M.; James B. Walker, S. W.; John M. Watson, J. W.; Milton Young, Treasurer; Paul Hildreth, Secretary; William Hamilton, S. D.; Robert N. Christian, S. and Tyler.

Member.—W. B. Kimble.

Initiated.—William Henderson.

Initiated and Passed.—James A. Craft, William McKee.

Initiated Passed and Raised.—Robert McChristian, W. B. Kimble.

PYTHAGORAS, No. 48—MIDDLETON, CARROLL COUNTY. (1840.)

Dispensation granted, 1840; chartered, —, 1841.

(Report from August 1, 1840, to January 14, 1841.)

Officers.—Reuben Mason, W. M.; J. C. Lattimer, S. W.; Andrew Woods, J. W.; Alfred R. Drake, Treasurer; Steven D. Bell, Secretary; Jonathan Bradley, S. D.; D. M. Lipscomb, J. D.; Thomas R. McCord, S. and Tyler.

Members.—William H. Bell, Richard Small.

Initiated.—Samuel B. Eskridge, M. B. Hill, Alexander McKenzie.

Raised.—Joseph J. Wood, Elisha Applewhite, Thos. R. McCord.

GREENSBORO, No. 49—GREENSBORO, CHOCTAW COUNTY. (1841.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1841; chartered, February 9, 1842.

Officers.—John J. Edward, W. M.; Abraham Green, S. W.; Phillip Taylor, J. W.; Pleasant J. Campbell, Treasurer; C. H. Saunders, Secretary; R. S. Marshall, S. D.; George Hail, J. D.; Daniel M. Johnson, Tyler.

Members.—Harrison L. Watts, Edward Johnson, Reuben Clements, John Nolen, John M. Hawkins, Hiram White, Alpha Peebles, John R. Golden, Simeon H. Clark, Erastus G. Harris, John R. Shuley, A. D. Peebles, D. S. Morris, Amasa White, Elias W. Storey, D. J. Parker, Nathan Pitman.

Initiated.—William McChristian, R. J. Morrow.

Passed and Raised.—Francis Pulatti, John Hendricks.

Raised.—Andrew P. Harris.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Harrison L. Watts, George Hail, Edward Johnson, Reuben Clements, John Nolen, John M. Hawkins, Hiram White, Alpha Peebles, John R. Golden, Simeon H. Clark, Erastus G. Harris, John R. Shuley, A. D. Peebles, D. S. Morris, Amasa White, Elias W. Storey, D. J. Parker, Nathan Pittman.

BROOKLYN, No. 50—BROOKLYN, NOXUBEE COUNTY. (1841.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1841; chartered Feb. 9, 1842.

(Report from September 8, 1841, to February 8, 1842.)

Officers.—W. D. Robbins, W. M.; John Barnes, S. W.; R. B. Bridges, J. W.; H. L. Walker, Treasurer; George W. Campbell, Secretary; James A. Dillard, S. D.; Wm. H. P. Powe, J. D.; D. Brougham, S. and Tyler.

Past Masters.—John W. Barnes, John Hardiman, John Pollard.

Members.—Jordan Robbins, S. Spenser, A. M. Burton, Henry Halbert, M. W. Smith, John Jackson, W. J. Craig, John B. Robbins, H. D. Wood.

Initiated.—G. B. Howard.

Passed.—Oliver German.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—John Jackson, W. J. Craig, John W. Robbins, D. H. Wood.

HERNANDO, No. 51—HERNANDO, DESOTO COUNTY. (1841.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1841; chartered, Feb. 9, 1842.

(Report from July 6, 1841, to February 1, 1842.)

Officers.—Joseph G. Hall, W. M.; E. B. Harris, S. W.; A. M. Kissak, J. W.;

Joseph N. Bobee, Treasurer; John C. Pryor, Secretary; William Bethel, S. D.; Jared Collins, J. D.; Robert Thrasher, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Peyton S. Bethel, Wade H. Cobb, Thomas S. Tate, Thomas P. Stone, John Delafield, E. N. Coffey, George Foote, H. W. Anderson, Amos Roark, O. Wimberly, James H. Murray, W. G. Huddleston, L. W. Evans, R. C. Hancock, John T. Moseley, Joseph Scurlock, Solomon C. Childress, Young C. Stokes, E. F. Buckner, R. S. Manning, A. C. Satterfield, William D. Ellis.

Initiated.—James H. Wilbourn, Alfred F. Cole, A. R. Cole.

Initiated and Passed.—Thomas N. Hancock.

Passed.—William D. Davis.

Raised.—Peyton S. Bethel.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—W. H. Cobb, Thomas S. Tate, Thomas P. Stone, John Delafield, jr., E. N. C. Coffey, George Foote, Isaiah Stout, O. Wimberly, James H. Murry, William Huddleston, L. W. Evans, R. C. Hancock, John T. Moseley, Joseph Scurlock, Solomon C. Childress, Young C. Stokes.

Removed.—John L. Sims, William Bethel, Isaiah Stout.

Died.—E. B. Harrel, Amos Roark, F. H. Walker, B. F. Gray.

Rejected.—Silas Walden.

LOCKE, No. 52—NATCHEZ, ADAMS COUNTY. (1841.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1841; chartered, February 9, 1842.

(Report from July 6, 1841, to February 1, 1842.)

Officers.—John M. Duffield, W. M.; William Cooper, S. W.; John R. Hewitt, J. W.; Samuel McAlister, Treasurer; D. H. Moseley, Secretary; Aaron Lindsey, S. D.; E. H. Dashiell, J. D.; —, S and Tyler.

Members.—William H. Miller, John Roundtree, Alex. C. Hunter, J. A. Hunstable, D. N. Barrows, Joseph Font, E. L. Glassburn, John H. Lacy, Martin C. Collins, John Cooper, Curtis S. Smith.

Initiated.—Pere Price, James C. Jones, George W. Nicols, M. Atchison, Chas. N. Cooper.

Raised.—Joseph Font.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—William H. Miller, John Roundtree, J. A. Hunstable, D. N. Barrows, C. S. Smith, E. L. Glassburn, J. H. Lacy, M. C. Collins, John Cooper.

Died.—Aaron Lacy.

LAFAYETTE, No. 53—QUITMAN, CLARKE COUNTY. (1841.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1841; Chartered, Feb. 9, 1842.

(Report from November 15, 1841, to January 1, 1842.)

Officers.—Thomas P. Falconer, W. M.; Benjamin Estes, S. W.; Robert Collins, J. W.; William B. Slater, Treasurer; William F. Green, Secretary; Eli L. Collins, S. D.; Wm. Covington, J. D.; M. J. Simrall, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Samuel Hemphill, R. A. Hundley, Samuel W. Howze, Thomas J. Johnson.

Initiated.—X. L. Bracy.

Initiated and Passed.—George Knight, E. Patton.

Raised.—R. A. Hundley.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Samuel W. Howze, Thomas J. Johnson.

STERLING, No. 54—PAULDING, JASPER COUNTY. (1841.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1841; chartered, Feb. 9, 1842.

(Report from June 11, 1841, to February 9, 1842.)

Officers.—James McDugall, W. M.; John Watts, S. W.; John Haun, J. W.; John A. Hodges, Treasurer; Richard A. Dozier, Secretary; Joseph D. Dabney, S. D.; William Rankin, J. D.; Stephen Fatheree, S. and Tyler.

Members.—James E. Watts, Hamilton Brown, Moses Z. Collins, E. S. Collins, E. S. Carraway, William B. Dozier, Isaac Morgan, Isaac V. Hodges, Thomas Watts, William Bridges, J. J. H. Morris, Robert Collins, William Parker, M. J. Sumrall, William C. Farrall, Samuel B. Watts, Carl F. Jockel, John Heidelberg, E. R. Strickland, Joseph R. Eastburn, Samuel Hemphill, William Covington, Eli L. Collins, E. A. M. Grey, Oliver C. Rhodes.

Initiated.—R. A. Hundley, John Dyess.

Initiated and Passed.—Samuel B. Watts, John C. Heidelberg, A. Southerland, George W. Rogers, Reuben Rogers.

Raised.—Isaac N. Hodges, Thomas Watts, William Bridges.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Samuel B. Watts, E. R. Strickland, C. F. Jockel, William Covington, William F. Green, Eli L. Collins.

Rejected.—E. Ferguson, John H. Johnson, Simeon R. Adams, Spencer R. Bankston.

Died.—John Haun.

* NOTE—"Paulding Lodge, U. D.," was instituted July 28, 1838, but appears not to have been chartered. The following were the

Officers—B. Hunt, W. M.; James E. Watts, S. W.; S. S. Leftwitch, J. W.; Wm. Ellis, Treasurer; James McDugald, Secretary; J. D. Dabney, S. D.; J. H. Saxan, J. D.; S. Fatheree, Tyler.

Members—T. S. Sterling, R. Collins, A. M. Wilson, John Hann.

Initiated—Wm. Bridges, J. S. Terrell, Wm. Parker, Wm. H. Alortan, J. A. Hodges.

Initiated and Passed—A. G. Tease, T. L. Lemny, Thos. Watts.

CHULAHOMA, No. 55—CHULAHOMA, MARSHALL COUNTY. (1842.)

Dispensation granted, Feb. 9, 1842; chartered, Jan. 19, 1843.

Officers.—George Tucker, W. M.; Samuel A. Wallace, S. W.; Jefferson A. Meek, J. W.; James Hicks, Treasurer; Robert Robinson, Secretary; W. W. Nevill, S. D.; Michell Childress, J. D.; James W. Briscoe, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Thomas B. Coleman, M. H. Harper, Thomas F. Davis, William, B. Spinks, William R. Baker.

Initiated.—John H. Craig, Jesse C. Tucker.

Raised.—M. H. Harper, William Baker.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Thomas F. Davis, Thomas B. Coleman, William B. Spinks.

MISSISSIPPI, No. 56—RODNEY, JEFFERSON COUNTY. (1842.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1842; chartered, Jan. 19, 1843.

(Report from February 10, 1842, to January 14, 1843.)

Officers.—G. Earl Martin, W. M.; John A. Watkins, S. W.; David Bone, J. W.; Levi C. Harris, Treasurer; George Heckler, Secretary; John Burleigh, S. D.; Sol. B. Stampley, J. D.; Robert Farley, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Charles Tullis, R. M. Smith, J. B. Murrell, Robert Davenport, Alex. Southerland, C. S. Coffey, Thomas M. Nash, Nathan Coffey, James M. Berry, John J. Stampley, William H. Compton, D. J. Stampley, Alex. Cameron, John R. Smith, P. O. Hughes, E. D. Pickett.

Initiated.—Jimmerson Liddell.

Initiated and Passed.—Asa H. Watkins, Andrew Henson, Nathan Coffey.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Frederic W. Smith, Robert Davenport, Charles Tullis, Redric Smith, John B. Murrell, Thomas M. Nash, Chesley F. Coffey, John J. Stampley, John C. Smith, Alex. Cameron, William H. Compton, David J. Stampley, Cortez Chambliss, John R. Smith, Isaac Bogart.

HARRISON, No. 57—GARLANDSVILLE, JASPER COUNTY. (1842.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1842; chartered Jan. 19, 1843.

(Report from November 19, 1842 to January 8, 1843.)

Officers.—James E. Watts, W. M.; Isaac V. Hodges, S. W.; John A. Hodges, J. W.; Thomas Watts, Treasurer; Samuel B. Watts, Secretary; Seaborne J. Brown, S. D.; William Garry, J. D.; Hamilton Brown, Tyler.

Members.—B. F. Reynolds, William A. White, Charles A. White, Charles E. Davis, James Ellis, John H. Gardner, Isaac A. Gary, Samuel Brown, W. H. Holland.

Initiated and Passed.—Alanson Goss.

Passed.—Edward Scanland, John D. Finch.

Raised.—B. F. Reynolds, W. A. White.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Charles F. Davis, Isaac H. Gary, Samuel Brown, W. H. Holland, Rosier Davis.

TAPPAN, No. 59—BROWNSVILLE, HINDS COUNTY. (1843.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1843; chartered, Jan. 14, 1844.

(Report from August 28, 1843, to December 27, 1843.)

Officers.—J. J. Billatine, W. M.; G. C. Porter, S. W.; C. J. Spann, J. W.; J. J. Birdsong, Treasurer; H. Handy, Secretary; N. B. Sharkey, S. D.; V. Peyton, J. D.; S. Bass, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Pulaski Dudley, R. B. Powe, S. Gazaway, P. H. Cook, C. H. Lanier, B. D. Strother, J. W. Andrews, E. W. Echols, C. Williams.

Initiated.—P. White, A. J. Perry, J. P. Martin.

Passed.—J. L. Dixy.

Initiated and Passed.—L. Langstaff.

Dimitted.—D. J. Brown, N. B. Sharkey.

ST. ALBANS, No. 60—COLUMBIA, MARION COUNTY. (1843.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1843; chartered, Jan. 16, 1844.

(Report from August 31, 1843, to December 27, 1843.)

Officers.—Azel Baccus Bacon, W. M.; G. D. Patterson, S. W.; Allen Barnes, J. W.; Jesse Warren, Treasurer; Henry T. Pope, Secretary; —, S. D.; — J. D.; W. S. Regan, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Stephen H. Wilkes, Lawson Booth, Reuben Watch, jr., W. M. Rankin, Joseph S. Lowe.

Initiated.—Benjamin B. Barnes.

Raised.—W. M. Rankin, Joseph S. Lowe.

Rejected.—James Kenner.

EUREKA, No. 61—RICHLAND, HOLMES COUNTY. (1843.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1843; chartered, Jan. 16, 1844.

Officers.—J. J. Doty, W. M.; J. Falls, P. M., S. W.; James W. Wade, J. W.; John M. Waskone, Treasurer; J. James, P. M., Secretary; W. M. Bonner, S. D.; Andrew J. Patterson, J. D., Benjamin D. Wade, S.; Billington Smalley, Tyler.

Past Masters.—J. Page, S. D. Mitchell.

Members.—Bethel D. Gerall, Robert E. Law, George D. Roberts, Abner V. Rowe, Daniel L. Russel, Ashbury H. Shanks, II. Level, Edward Harrington, William Morris, Levi Hurlbutt, Robert F. Low.

Initiated.—David Mitchell, Edward Hughes, jr., John Finley, J. F. Williams.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Levi Hurlbutt, Robert F. Low.

Dimitted.—Gilford D. Mitchell.

Rejected.—Owen F. Gafford.

MARION, No. 62—MARION, LAUDERDALE COUNTY. (1844.)

Dispensation granted, Jan. 7, 1844; chartered, January 28, 1844.

(Report from April 18, 1844, to January 1, 1845.)

Officers.—George W. Ury, W. M.; William H. White, S. W.; Epps R. Brown, J. W.; Samuel A. Griffith, Treasurer; John F. Chester, Secretary; F. S. Petway, S. D.; Jubel B. Hancock, J. D.; Wm. D. Joyner, S. and Tyler.

Members.—George B. Petty, Thomas B. Lucy, Emanuel A. Durr, Benjamin F. Parker, Hiram B. Smith, Jordan Joiner, James M. Pigott, Abraham Carr, Reuben Thompson, William G. Hall, A. M. Jones, Sylvanus Evans, William J. Wright, A. Tool.

Initiated—Eli Tool, E. L. James, S. A. D. Steel.

Raised.—E. A. Durr, A. Carr, R. H. Herbert.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—B. F. Parke, H. B. Smith, J. Joyner, A. Tool, J. M. Pigott, W. G. Hall, J. P. Hill, A. M. Jones, W. J. Wright.

Dimitted.—A. M. Jones.

Died.—William D. Joyner.

ASYLUM, No. 63—WOODVILLE, WILKINSON COUNTY. (1843.)

Dispensation granted, Jan. 16, 1843; chartered, Jan. 28, 1845.

(Report from October 6, 1843, to December 27, 1843.)

Officers.—E. A. M. Gray, W. M.; Parker Smith, S. W.; F. Gildart, J. W.; H. J. Powell, Treasurer; John C. Alexander, Secretary; R. H. McDaniel, S. D.; E. H. Wailes, J. D.; Wm. M. Smith, S. and Tyler.

Members.—A. M. Felters, J. M. Titcomb, William Hinds, James H. Stokes, R. N. McDaniel.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—J. M. Titcomb, William Hinds, J. H. Stokes, R. N. McDaniel.

Dimitted.—J. M. Titcomb, William Hinds, J. H. Stokes, E. A. M. Gray,—(E. A. M. Gray to take effect after expiration of term of office.)

DE KALB, No. 64—DE KALB, KEMPER COUNTY. (1844.)

Dispensation granted, July 29, 1844; chartered, Jan. 28, 1845.

(Report from August 17, 1844, to December 31, 1844.)

Officers.—William Hyde, W. M.; J. G. McInnis, S. W.; Charles C. Scott, J. W.; Francis T. Scott, Treasurer; H. W. Flournoy, Secretary; Samuel Bell Sr., S. D.; Benjamin C. Oppelt, J. D.; L. Calloway, S. and Tyler.

Past Master.—A. B. Dawson.

Members.—P. L. Blair, Moses Evens, A. H. Harris, Malachi Fox, G. W. P. Pool, Wm. Shannon, P. P. Callum, Wm. Gill.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—P. L. Blair, Moses Evens, A. Harris, Malachi Fox, G. W. P. Pool, William Shannon, P. P. Callum, Wm. G. Gill.

THOMAS HINDS, No. 58—FAYETTE, JEFFERSON COUNTY. (1842.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1842; chartered Jan. 19, 1843.

(Report from April 29, 1843, to January 13, 1844.)

Officers.—John H. Duncan, W. M.; Phillip Hughes, S. W.; Chesley S. Coffey, J. W.; Charles T. Miles, Treasurer; James J. Collier, Secretary; Thomas M. Nash, S. D.; M. C. Collins, J. D.; Robert Davenbort, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Nathan Coffey, John J. Stampley, William S. Bickley, David J. Stampley, M. W. Trimble, H. M. Youngblood, Westley Vallains, S. C. Stampley, Parham M. Hall, Robert Duncan, Jno. D. Burch, Chas. T. Miles.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Charles T. Miles, John D. Burch, Robert Duncan, Westley Vallians, Parham M. Hall, S. C. Stampley.

DAVID J. WHITE, U. D.—COLUMBIA, MARION COUNTY. (1841.)

Dispensation of this Lodge was surrendered to the Grand Secretary in 1843.

(Report from September 25, 1841, to February 7, 1842.)

Officers.—George D. Patterson, W. M.; A. J. Blackburn, S. W.; John W. Thompson, J. W.; William S. Regan, Treasurer; H. T. Pope, Secretary; S. H. Wilkes, S. D.; A. Allison, J. D.; T. B. Blackburn, S. and Tyler.

Members.—James Kenna, Allen Barnes, Jesse Warren, Jno. H. Gardner.

Initiated.—Joel Baughman, Joseph S. Loc.

Raised.—J. Kenna.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Allen Barnes, Jesse Warren, John H. Gardner.

SILAS BROWN, No. 65—JACKSON, HINDS COUNTY. (1844.)

Dispensation granted, May 6, 1844; chartered, Jan. 28, 1845.

Officers.—Robert Hughes, W. M.; p. t., J. F. Foute. S. W.; p. t., —, J. W.;

John T. Hull, Treasurer ; Edmund Whaley, Secretary ; J. B. Morgan, S. D.; N. W. Camp, J. D.; Thos. J. Hawkins, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Samuel Beazley, Albert G. Brown, C. S. Tarpley, Robert H. Buckner, Samuel Yerger, James Rucks, A. Hutchinson, J. H. White, David Shelton, C. F. Weigandt, Robert Clark, J. S. Brein, J. J. Poindexter, D. N. Barrows, Charles Scott, W. S. Langley, James H. Boyd, Robert Jack, H. A. Cargil, R. E. Arrington.

Initiated.—J. H. Haralson, W. A. Ware, W. H. Mount, W. H. Lee.

Raised.—H. A. Cargil.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Charles Scott, W. S. Langley, N. W. Camp, James H. Boyd, Robert Jack, R. E. Arrington.

Dmitted.—C. C. Spear.

Expelled.—C. R. Precriminski.

PANOLA, No. 66—PANOLA, PANOLA COUNTY. (1845.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1845 ; chartered, Jan. 21, 1846.

(Report from April 2, 1845, to December 29, 1845.)

Officers.—Calvin Miller, W. M.; William Smith, S. W.; Solomon Childres, J. W.; Samuel W. Hawkins, Treasurer ; F. A. Tyler, Secretary ; C. F. Curtis, S. D.; Samuel Martin, J. D.; James Packer, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Jesse Price, Jonathan T. Davis, A. Foster, Daniel Grayson, E. C. Bolton, W. C. Wesson, J. P. Woodruff, E. V. Dickens, Thomas B. Carroll, A. B. Jewell, S. Wilds Vernon, L. B. Acker, Wm. B. Dickens.

Initiated.—John S. Kennedy.

Passed and Raised.—A. B. Jewell.

Raised.—Samuel M. Hawkins.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—E. C. Bolton, W. C. Wesson, J. P. Woodruff, E. T. Dickens, Thomas Carroll.

Dmitted.—Thos. B. Carroll.

Died.—Jonathan T. Davis.

Rejected.—Harry Brille, D. D. Coldwell, W. W. Smith.

HOUSTON, No. 67—HOUSTON, CHICKASAW COUNTY. (1845.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1845 ; chartered, Jan. 20, 1846.

(Report from February 7, 1845, to December 29, 1845.)

Officers.—Andrew McEwin, W. M.; Robert Murry, S. W.; D. H. Wood, J. W.; Samuel Myers, Treasurer ; D. W. Misheur, Secretary ; S. D. Holleman, S. D.; J. B. Middlebrooks, J. D.; G. B. Harwood, S. and Tyler.

Members.—J. Ault, G. W. Thornton, J. D. Jennings, J. R. McIntosh, A. Barton, F. G. Wood, W. P. Wood, A. A. Park, B. Nichols, F. Williams, G. W. Murray, W. H. Crawford, L. A. Gilleland, A. Foster, S. Myers, T. M. Blackwell, W. Gray, W. T. Hartin, J. Ivy, L. W. Galbreth, J. B. Shearer, S. M. Gilleland, B. H. Chapman, S. Baird, C. P. Baldwin, S. Handley, R. G. Steele, J. H. Williams, W. S. Featherston, N. B. Traver, W. Marion, C. C. M. Marable, A. M. Robertson, G. A. Sturges.

Initiated.—J. A. Stewart, J. P. P. Vaughan, W. W. Hereford, J. Holly, S. G. Ivy.

Raised.—A. Foster, T. M. Blackwell.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—J. Ault, S. Mayers, G. W. Thornton, J. D. Jennings, J. R. McIntosh, A. Burton, F. G. Wood, W. P. Wood, A. A. Park, B. Nichols, T. Williams, G. W. Murray, W. H. Crawford, L. A. Gilleland, A. M. Robertson, G. A. Sturges, J. Ellis, W. Gray, W. T. Harlin, J. Ivy, L. W. Galbreth, J. B. Shearer, S. M. Gilleland, B. H. Chapman, S. Baird, C. B. Baldwin, S. Handley.

Dimitted.—J. Ellis, G. A. Sturges, A. M. Robertson.

Rejected.—D. D. Smith, J. N. Hollis, J. Thompson.

Suspended.—E. B. Harwood.

VANNATTA, No. 68—RALEIGH, SMITH COUNTY. (1845.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1845 ; chartered, Jan. 20, 1846.

(Report from February 22, 1845, to December 27, 1845.)

Officers.—B. F. Reynolds, W. M.; J. V. Hodges, S. W.; Abram Carr, J. W.; J. W. Crook, Treasurer, T. J. Coleman, Secretary ; J. G. Blackwell, S. D.; G. W. Rogers, J. D.; R. Rogers, S. and Tyler.

Members.—E. D. Duckworth, T. Stubbs, B. Croft, Jesse Croft, M. M. Parrott, D. S. Stephens, James Smith, T. L. Lemly, A. Chisholm, John Spinks, L. E. Crook, J. Duckworth.

Initiated.—J. D. W. Duckworth, Reuben Croft.

Initiated and Passed.—B. W. Clark.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—E. D. Duckworth, J. Duckworth, T. Stubbs, J. Croft, W. M. Parrott, D. Stephens, J. Smith.

HOLMESVILLE, No. 69—HOLMESVILLE, PIKE COUNTY. (1845.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1845 ; chartered, Jan. 20, 1846.

(Report from March 8, 1845, to January 10, 1846.)

Officers.—James Kenna, W. M.; B. W. Leggett, S. W.; A. Garland, J. W.; G. Nicholson, Treasurer ; S. A. Matthews, Secretary ; Robert Nicholson, S. D.; L. H. Bridges, J. D.; O. S. Newman, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Joseph Catching, A. J. Blackburn, Henry Ming, A. S. Kotwitz, H. M. Quin, John B. Stratham, John H. McGehee, Noel G. Bales, J. T. Shoup, Bennett Carter, Jesse Wallace, Burney Lewis.

Initiated and Passed.—A. H. Prewitt.

Passed.—Henry Flowers.

Passed and Raised.—Bennett Carter, George Nicholson.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—S. A. Matthews, A. S. Kitwitz, J. B. Stratham, John H. McGehee, L. Hall Bridges,, Jesse Wallace, Noel G. Boles, J. T. Shoup, Bennett Carter, H. Murry Quin, Barney Lewis.

EVENING STAR, No. 70—STEEN'S CREEK, RANKIN COUNTY. (1845.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1845 ; chartered, January 20, 1846.

(Report from February 1, 1845, to January 4, 1846.)

Officers.—George W. Hliveley, W. M.; H. Dear, Sr., S. W.; J. B. Butler, J. W.;

A. A. Lewis, Treasurer ; B. W. Jones, Secretary ; W. Thompson, S. D.; Brice Miller, J. D., Eli Miller, S. and Tyler.

Past Master.—S. D. Forbes.

Members.—William Wroten, L. Tilman, R. Blackman, John A. Voight, John Russell, Austin Briggs, Dilson R. Kimbrell, John W. Stanley, James S. Kimbrell, Wm. C. Stallings, B. F. Impson.

Initiated.—T. M. Wansley, John Rucker.

Initiated and Passed.—C. O. Jackson.

Raised.—L. C. Gibson.

Passed and Raised.—John Russell.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—B. W. Jones, A. A. Lewis, A. Briggs, John A. Voigt, W. C. Stallings, B. F. Impson, John W. Stanley, D. S. Kimbrell, J. S. Kimbrell.

Dimitted.—Levi Spurling, L. C. Gibson.

Rejected.—John S. Means, Clark T. Williams.

JOS. WARREN, No. 71—NEW ALBANY, PONTOTOC COUNTY. (1843.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1843 ; chartered, January 20, 1846.

(Report from October 2, 1843, to January 8, 1844.)

Officers.—W. D. Robbins, W. M.; John W. Scudday, S. W.; H. C. Hood, J. W.; Booker Foster, Treasurer ; William Blands, Secretary ; William Vunkannon, S. D.; A. C. J. Wetherall, J. D.; Burrell Moore, S. and Tyler.

Members.—H. A. Shorter, Robert H. Dansly, C. C. Chamberlain, C. T. Bond, Jefferson Orr, John Vunkannon, Jesse Owen, Jasper M. Jones, A. H. Ferguson.

Initiated.—J. F. Thompson, J. R. Powers.

Passed.—M. W. Martin.

WILSON, No. 72—ENTERPRISE, CLARKE COUNTY. (1845.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1845 ; chartered, Jan. 20, 1846.

(Report from June 26, 1845, to January 1, 1846.)

Officers.—Samuel W. Howze, W. M.; William E. Jones, S. W.; James M. Hand, J. W.; Richmond N. Hough, Treasurer ; Charles T. Mayerhoff, Secretary ; Dabney M. Hundley, S. D.; Allen S. Harmon, J. D.; David Arrant, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Alson Hough, Thomas Wolverton, D. B. Thompson, Lemuel H. Garry, Allen Arrant, R. J. Jennings.

Initiated.—Sterling B. Parker.

Passed and Raised.—Allen Arrant.

Died.—Elijah Furgerson.

Rejected.—Simeon Strickland.

MADISON, No. 73—VERNON, MADISON COUNTY. (1845.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1845 ; chartered, Jan. 20, 1846.

(Report from May 28, 1845, to January 9, 1846.)

Officers.—Guston Kearney, W. M.; Stephen H. Darden, S. W.; Oscar D.

Kearney, J. W.; Lemuel B. Henry, Treasurer; Wm. Jordan Denson, Secretary; W. H. Wadlington, S. D.; Claiborne R. Crawford, J. D.

Members.—J. H. Cheatham, Wm. J. Wright, Orlando F. Pack, Elihu Wason, A. L. Porter, A. B. Manning, S. M. Old, James F. Boyd, J. M. Simmons, Edward Stevens, R. C. Cowen, Jos. M. King, G. W. Pride.

Past Master.—D. B. Crawford.

Initiated and Passed.—A. Barobeno, C. R. Balfour.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—J. H. Cheatham, A. B. Manning, S. M. Old, J. M. Simmons, E. Stevens, R. C. Cohen, J. F. Boyd.

Rejected.—W. H. Cockerham, James Wells, for membership; James Thompson, M. M.

CAMDEN, No. 74—CAMDEN, MADISON COUNTY. (1845.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1845; chartered, Jan. 20, 1846.)

(Report from December, —, 1845, to January, —, 1846.)

Officers.—John T. Edmondson, W. M.; Sam. Hamblin, S. W.; Vincent Moon, J. W.; J. B. Smith, Treasurer; William Davis, Jr., Secretary; James Lattimore, S. D.; —, J. D.; N. G. Steely, S. and Tyler.

LOUISVILLE, No. 75—LOUISVILLE, WINSTON COUNTY. (1845.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1845; chartered, January 20, 1846.

(Report from December 26, 1845, to January 10, 1846.)

Officers.—James B. McLelland, W. M.; Felix Gorman, S. W.; Samuel Thompson, J. W.; W. W. Caperton, Treasurer; George Byram, Secretary; G. W. Nimmo, S. D.; Lewis Zork, J. D.; Eugene Ferris, S. and Tyler.

Initiated.—Andrew Webb.

EBENEZER, No. 76—EBENEZER, DeSOTO COUNTY. (1846.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1846; chartered Feb. 17, 1847.

(Report from January 21, 1846, to February 6, 1847.)

Officers.—Win. G. Wynne, W. M.; David McGehee, S. W.; Wm. Vestal, J. W.; Thomas S. Tate, Treasurer; Green Bouldin, Secretary; H. P. Dorsey, S. D.; J. A. Turner, J. D.; Tobias B. Hall, S. and Tyler.

Members.—John L. Atkinson, James W. Bates, Joseph R. Brown, William P. Alford, J. C. Bradley, George W. Ellis, J. R. Hamilton, William A. Feeney, Alexander K. Miller, Simeon A. Pierce, J. W. Pickel, P. N. Raiford, D. F. Robertson, Gaston Utley, James D. Ruffin, Levi Turner, David Ross, T. O. Ellis.

Initiated.—R. B. Raiford, John Hinnaut, John D. Hudson.

Initiated and Passed.—H. J. Simons.

Passed and Raised.—T. O. Ellis, James W. Bates, A. K. Miller.

Raised.—Hugh W. Branch, Green Bouldin.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—S. A. Pierce, A. P. Dorsey, P. N. Raiford, Levi Turner, J. R. Brown, W. P. Alford, David Ross, J. W. Pickell, J. C.

Bradley, D. F. Robertson, James D. Ruffin, Gaston Utley, John M. Ruffin, Geo. W. Ellis, J. R. Hamilton, W. A. Feeney.

Admitted.—John L. Atkinson,

Dimitted.—Thos. O. Ellis, Guston Utley.

Rejected.—For 2nd deg., Humphery Hood, E. A., H. J. Simons, E. A.

EVERGREEN, No. 77—DECATUR, NEWTON COUNTY. (1846.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1846; chartered, Feb. 17, 1847.

(Report from March 14, 1846, to January 9, 1847.)

Officers.—Elijah Dansby, W. M.; Hamilton Cooper, S. W.; John Dunn, J. W.; Thos. Runnells, Treasurer; Edward Scanlan, Secretary; Robert Jones, S. D.; Sol. Myer, J. D.; S. Marks, S. and Tyler.

Initiated.—Wm. Graham.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—M. Barr, W. W. Drinkwater, Wm. Johnson, R. S. Willingham, W. W. Johnson, Wm. J. Jones, Samuel J. Jones, Jesse Huey, G. A. Johnson, Freeman Jones, E. Bradshaw, Samuel Williams.

Admitted.—H. G. Grenshaw.

Dimitted.—John Dunn, Sol. Myer.

Rejected.—R. W. Doolittle, E. E. Rich, J. R. Johnson, E. C. Graham, D. B. Bradley, M. K. Sellers.

WESTVILLE, No. 78—WESTVILLE, SIMPSON COUNTY. (1846.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1846; chartered Feb. 17, 1847.

(Report from February 20, 1846, to February 15, 1847.)

Officers.—E. N. Talley, W. M.; M. A. Banks, S. W.; J. D. Smith, J. W.; J. M. Layne, Treasurer; William H. Smith, Secretary; D. C. Gibson, J. D.; J. K. Stratton, S. and Tyler.

Members.—G. J. D. Funchess, John Freeman, James Patterson, J. B. Mendenhall, John Myers, Michael Durr, H. S. Crump, H. I. Lewis, G. H. Webster.

Initiated.—O. J. Dye.

Initiated and Passed.—J. A. Graves.

Passed and Raised.—H. S. Crump.

Raised.—Michael Durr.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—J. K. Stratton, G. J. D. Funchess, John Freeman, James Patterson, J. B. Mendenhall, John Myers, H. T. Lewis, G. H. Webster.

Rejected.—E. M. Riley.

SCOTT, No. 80—HILLSBORO', SCOTT COUNTY. (1846.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1846, chartered, Feb. 17, 1847.

Officers.—Isaac Taylor, W. M.; Isham T. Corley, S. W.; Edward T. Mitchell, J. W.; Abner Lack, Treasurer; M. P. Holman, Secretary; Allison Keath, S. D.; Josiah Leonard, J. D.; S. G. Corley, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Alinson Goss, L. D. Williams, John G. Owen, Wm. A. Lack, E. R. Buckner, J. L. Laseter, D. R. Jones, W. A. Gatewood, S. McLean, E. L. McDon-

ald, R. Raspberry, R. T. Bailer, A. J. Windham, Seth Corley, Wm. F. Barrott, Moses M. Lack, A. D. Holman.

Initiated.—James H. Laney, John Augustine, Jacob Kees, J. Y. Huddleston.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Wm. A. Lack, E. R. Buckner, J. L. Lasseter, D. R. Jones, John G. Owen, S. McLean, D. S. McDonald, Richard Raspberry, R. T. Bailer, A. J. Windham, Moses H. Lack, A. D. Holman, William F. Barrott.

Rejected.—Samuel Lamb, Simeon Frank.

PONTOTOC, No. 81—PONTOTOC, PONTOTOC COUNTY. (1846.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1846; chartered, Feb. 17, 1847.

(Report from January 18, 1846, to February 15, 1847.)

Officers.—A. J. Edmondson, W. M.; T. H. Williams, S. W.; —, J. W.; George R. Freeman, Treasurer; James W. Drake, Secretary; Robert W. Edmondson, S. D.; G. M. Ragsdale, J. D.; John Davis, S. and Tyler.

Members.—John Huntington, William R. Harris, Robt. J. Jones, James C. Reid, Thomas H. Vaughan, John H. Formwalt, Benj. C. Earle, William H. Kilpatrick, C. D. Fontaine, Wolfe Steppacher, James Oldshue, William E. McNeil, M. B. Feemster, Wm. M. Duncan.

Initiated.—Miles Carey, J. L. Doxey, G. W. Payne.

Initiated and Passed.—J. A. Caldaradis, R. A. Miller, W. McEwen, S. J. High.
Passed and Raised.—C. D. Fontaine.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—John Davis, James C. Reid, T. H. Vaughan, J. A. Formwalt, B. C. Earle, W. H. Kilpatrick, W. Steppacher, J. Oldshue, W. E. McNeil, M. B. Feemster, Wm. M. Duncan.

Rejected.—E. J. Crockett, V. E. Maxey.

OAKLAND, No. 82—OAKLAND, YALOBUSHA COUNTY. (1846.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1846; chartered, Feb. 17, 1847.

(Report from September 16, 1846, to February 5, 1847.)

Officers.—W. H. Cocke, W. M.; Wm. A. Bryan, S. W.; J. G. Reasonover, J. W.; R. C. Barrey, Treasurer; H. Benson, Secretary; J. T. M. Duke, S. D.; W. W. Paimore, J. D.; J. K. Kindall, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Geo. N. Herron, Johnson Buntin, A. M. Bradford, Wm. P. Alison Ervin M. Sayle, J. W. Leach.

Initiated.—B. L. Nabers, D. T. Sayle, Jacob Kirby.

Initiated and Passed.—W. J. Kirkpatrick.

Passed and Raised.—W. P. Alison.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—John Buntin, G. N. Herron, A. M. Bradford, J. K. Kindall, E. M. Sayle.

COFFEEVILLE, No. 83—COFFEEVILLE, YALOBUSHA COUNTY. (1846.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1846; chartered, Feb. 17, 1847.

Officers.—Thomas B. Carroll, W. M.; James Baker, S. W.; Henderson Ray, J. W.; Jordan Williams, Treasurer, *p. t.*; J. C. Provine, Secretary, *p. t.*; W.

W. Nevill, S. D., *p. t.*; A. F. Blades, J. D., *p. t.*; S. G. Wheless, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Harvy B. Carr, Wm. M. Harrison, D. L. Herron, C. S. Cocke, G. W. Herril, Samuel L. Burns, John Baker, Thomas S. Fishback, A. S. Campbell, H. D. Hill, W. T. Williams, James M. York, Thomas J. N. Bridgers, S. Bell.

Initiated.—M. H. Strain.

Initiated and Passed.—T. C. Montgomery, J. H. Payne.

Passed and Raised.—D. L. Herron, G. W. Herril, Samuel L. Burns.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—John Baker, T. S. Fishback, A. S. Campbell, H. D. Hill, W. T. Williams, James M. York, T. J. N. Bridgers, S. Bell.

Admitted.—A. F. Blades, Wm. M. Morrison.

Rejected.—A. B. Hawkins, Martin Casay.

DEWITT CLINTON, No. 84—SHONGALO, CARROLL COUNTY. (1846.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1846; chartered, Feb. 17, 1847.

Officers.—W. H. Ellington, W. M.; Thomas C. Harris, S. W.; Benjamin E. Morris, J. W.; S. Y. Walker, Treasurer; Peter Gilbert, Secretary; B. F. Harper, S. D.; W. T. Cain, J. D.; S. J. Brown, S. and Jyler.

Past Master.—Charles Kopperell.

Members.—Nathaniel Wells, W. C. Lovein, I. Lowrey, Z. Blackman, R. A. Smith, John A. McBride, R. A. Brooks, A. B. Oldham, W. G. Goss.

Initiated.—S. J. McKay.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Isham Lowry, Z. Blackman, W. C. Lovein, R. A. Smith, John A. McBride, W. G. Goss, R. A. Brooks, A. B. Oldham.

Rejected.—Joel D. Anderson.

PIKEVILLE, No. 85—PIKEVILLE, PIKE COUNTY. (1846.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1846; chartered, Feb. 17, 1847.

(Report from November 21, 1846, to January 20, 1847.)

Officers.—L. D. Hollaman, W. M.; R. G. Steele, S. W.; J. P. Vaughan, J. W.; Joseph B. Baskin, Treasurer; W. W. Herriford, Secretary; James H. Montgomery, S. D.; James A. Stewart, J. D.; William L. Baskin, S. and Tyler.

Members.—William White, S. P. Gates, J. N. Gates, W. W. Allin, G. W. Kent, S. S. Griffin, —, Mallett.

Initiated.—Cyrus Carson, James Elliott.

Initiated and Passed.—E. Stephens, J. M. Harvey, John Yeunerson.

Raised.—J. N. Gates, W. W. Allin, Rev. Mallett.

BLACK HAWK,* No. 86—BLACK HAWK, CARROLL COUNTY. (1846.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1846; chartered, Feb. 17, 1847.

(Report from November 21, 1846, to February 15, 1847.)

Officers.—D. A. Bland, W. M.; Samuel Atchison, S. W.; J. J. Gillespie, J. W.; William Gillespie, Treasurer; W. McMartin, Secretary; George Wear, S. D.; Jeremiah Robinson, J. W.; James Gillespie, S. and Tyler.

Members.—B. F. Hendon, J. E. Farmer, J. D. Calhoun, William L. Antony.
Initiated.—James Avera, Simeon T. Lane.

Passed and Raised.—J. E. Farmer, James Gillespie.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—B. F. Hendon, W. L. Antony, J. D. Calhoun.

Rejected.—N. A. Clark.

* This Lodge is now chartered as Mount Moriah, No. 86.

PRARIE, No. 87—OKOLONA, CHICKASAW COUNTY. (1847.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1847 ; chartered, Feb. 21, 1848.

(Report from March 11, 1847, to January 15, 1848.)

Officers.—Isaac Mullen, W. M.; M. O. Hill, S. W.; A. G. Pruitt, J. W.; H. L. Hill, Treasurer ; J. C. Rand, Secretary ; Joshua Myrick, S. D.; John Ivy, J. D.; R. J. McCrary, S. and Tyler.

Past Master.—Jno. M. White.

Members.—Abner Farned, H. S. Loward, Jas. D. McAlister, J. S. Brooks, J. M. Bell, Pallese Neely, A. D. Dancey, T. J. Wheeler, Wm. Penny, Garner Watson, C. S. Hill, Wm. H. Wheeler, B. F. Brooks, C. G. Scoggin, R. W. Priest, S. Henderson, Wm. M. Roberson, W. D. Thomason, A. Thomason, Wm. B. Wilks, R. C. Clark, J. M. Russell, W. H. C. Thomas, A. F. Gullit, Jas. Lawler, Wm. P. Kennedy.

Initiated.—Arch'd Thomason, A. G. Pillow, Samuel Penny, Lewis McLenden, Josiah Hinds.

Initiated and Passed.—John Carson, F. C. Gartrell, Wm. D. McCraw, Wm. Bowden, John Gresham.

Passed and Raised.—James M. Russell, William H. C. Thomas, Archibald Thomason.

Raised.—James Lawler, Wm. P. Kennedy.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—A. D. Dancey, T. J. Wheeler, Wm. Penny, G. Watson, C. S. Hill, Wm. H. Wheeler, B. F. Brooks, C. G. Scoggin, R. W. Priest, S. Henderson, Wm. B. Roberson, W. D. Thomason, William B. Wilks, R. C. Clark.

Rejected.—Morris Williams, James H. Shackelford, Garlin Anderson, W. B. Tompkins, Wm. H. Noe, B. Nesbitt.

TRINITY, No. 88—KOSCIUSKO, ATTALA COUNTY. (1847.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1847 ; chartered, Feb. 21, 1848.

(Report from February 20, 1847, to February 20, 1848.)

Officers.—William Segur, W. M.; Wm. B. Lott, S. W.; Alex. Mabry, J. W.; J. M. Lavenburg, Treasurer ; Silas H. Clark, Secretary ; Jesse Craft, S. D.; Wade Harvey, J. D.; Richard Harvey, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Lewis A. Powell, Fred. Zollicoffer, R. S. Ransom, James D. McGill, A. G. Green, James L. Jolly, Henry Emmerson, James Choate, Benj. F. Wroe, Seth. Robinson, S. Hyames, James McAdory, G. W. Harlow, Olam Waddell, I. W. Scarbrough, Barton Evans, James Haden, W. P. Thompson, R. M. Cade, R. J. Mosby, John J. Cothorn, Richard Bullock, William P. Evans, L. G. Bryan, L. B. Thompson, S. H. Clark, L. M. Nash, James A. Nash, Benjamin Rook, A. M. Davis, E. H. Sanders, G. J. Wilson, A. P. Boyd, Pierce Dicken, Charles

Fuller, Wm. S. Ross, Peter Oppenheim, Alex. Caughman, David Carr, W. G. Aston, H. H. Shrock, Owen Lucas.

Initiated.—O. M. Simpson, W. L. D. White, R. J. Irving, Joshua P. Cook, *Initiated and Passed.*—Benj. McClung.

Passed and Raised.—John J. Cothorn, Owen Lucas.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—I. M. Scarborough, Barton Evans, Jas. Haden, Wm. B. Thompson, R. M. Cade, R. J. Mosby, Richard Bullock, William P. Evans, L. G. Bryan, L. B. Thompson, J. W. Scarborough, S. H. Clark, L. M. Nash, Jas. A. Nash, Benj. Rook, A. M. Davis, E. H. Sanders, G. J. Wilson, A. P. Boyd, Pierce Dicken, Charles Fuller, L. D. Loughridge, Wm. S. Ross, P. Openheim, A. Caughman, David Carr, W. G. Aston, H. H. Shrock.

Admitted.—Olam Waddell.

Dimitted.—S. G. Loughridge, Owen Lucas, John W. Scarborough, T. G. Pierce.

Suspended.—G. W. Harlow.

Reinstated.—G. W. Harlow.

Rejected.—John T. Davis, Edward Williams, Hiram Pierce, Jas. M. Dodd.

OKTIBBEHA, No. 89 *—STARKVILLE, OKTIBBEHA COUNTY. (1847.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1847 ; chartered, Feb. 21, 1848.

(Report from July 16, 1847, to January 21, 1848.)

Officers—Wm. R. Cannon, W. M.; Simeon Muldrow, S. W.; S. W. Easley, J. W.; Moses F. Westbrook, Treasurer; Wm. G. Lampkin, Secretary, John T. Freeman, S. D.; Alexander Walker, J. D.; Charles Dibrell, S. and Tyler.

Past Master.—O. L. Nash.

Members.—J. P. Smith, R. A. Lampkin, R. C. Love, Thos. Tabb, J. C. Carlile, J. W. May, Z. P. McAlexander, H. J. Pearson, G. A. Battle, T. W. Dillard, Marion Stinnit, D. A. Walton, J. H. Westbrook.

Initiated.—H. D. Kimard, F. G. Brown, L. H. McGowan, James Pierson, John Phillips, James J. Riddle, Charles R. Jordan.

Initiated and Passed.—Oats Caroway, David Lawrence, Thomas H. Fields, S. W. Donathan.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—J. P. Smith, A. W. Lampkin, R. C. Love, Thomas Tabb, J. G. Carlile, J. W. May, Z. P. McAlexander, H. J. Pierson, J. Johnson, G. A. Battle, T. W. Dillard, M. Stinnit, D. A. Walton, J. W. Westbrook.

Admitted.—O. L. Nash, R. A. Lampkin.

Dimitted.—William Perkins, Alexander Walker, L. Livingston, J. Johnson, A. W. Lampkin.

* This Lodge is now chartered as Abert Lodge, No. 89.

BELMONT, No. 90—BELMONT, PANOLA COUNTY. (1847.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1847 ; chartered, Feb. 21, 1848.)

(Report from May 17, 1847, to February 6, 1848.)

Officers.—A. B. Jewell, W. M., Jesse Price, S. W.; Harvy Osteen, J. W.;

Thomas C. Childress, Treasurer ; James R. Hamilton, Secretary ; S. W. Vernon, S. D. ; William B. Dickens, J. D. ; Anthony Foster, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Greenville Dowell, David Butts, M. N. Phillips, Thomas F. Wilson, E. V. Dickens.

Initiated.—J. Bradley.

Initiated and Passed.—James O. Harris.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—G. Dowell, A. J. Ellis, M. N. Phillips, David Butts, Thos. F. Wilson.

Expelled.—Solomon Childress.

Rejected.—Andrew Jackson.

WILLIS, No. 92 ;—POLKVILLE, SMITH COUNTY. (1847.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1847 ; chartered, Feb. 21, 1848.

(Report from January 1, 1847, to January 1, 1848.)

Officers.—B. F. Reynolds, W. M. ; R. S. Willingham, S. W. ; John M. Sims, J. W. ; W. H. B. Lane, Treasurer ; J. D. Finch, Secretary ; —, S. D. ; Hugh McVay, J. D. ; A. B. Sandford, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Henry Franklin, S. C. Deen, J. W. Crook, F. F. Cummings, N. J. Edwards, B. F. Rasberry, N. Thorn, C. B. Dunigan, Peter L. Stubbs, J. G. H. Baugh, Sam'l F. Wall, J. R. Jackson.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—S. C. Deen, A. J. Edwards, B. F. Rasberry, N. Thorn, C. B. Dunigan, Peter L. Stubbs, J. G. H. Baugh, Sam'l F. Wall, J. K. Jackson.

Admitted.—B. F. Kennedy, J. W. Crook, Henry Franklin.

Rejected.—J. E. Smith, —Shillings.

PHILADELPHIA, No. 93—PHILADELPHIA, NESHOPA COUNTY. (1847.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1847 ; chartered, February 21, 1847.

(Report from July 24, 1847, to February 12, 1848.)

Officers.—John Watts, W. M. ; Francis Keenan, S. W. ; A. B. Vooldrige, J. W. ; John G. Lewis, Treasurer ; H. E. Simms, Secretary ; Nathan'l Crockett, S. D. ; J. N. Nash, J. D. ; Samuel Williams, S. and Tyler.

Members.—T. J. R. Keenan, J. T. Ellison, B. F. Roundtree, Hugh Harrison, E. M. Fincher, E. L. Lewis, John Holland, J. B. T. Sellers, Robert Williams, John J. S. Miles, H. C. Robinson, M. W. Lewis, J. W. Atkins, Wm. J. Faucett, J. S. Slaughter, M. D. Young, James Wilson, E. E. Poole, B. J. Jackoway, H. B. Baldwin, E. Edwards, R. B. Kirkland.

Initiated.—C. P. Stripling.

Initiated and Passed.—E. M. Chatham, J. A. Hanson.

Passed.—L. B. Ansted.

Raised.—T. J. R. Keenan.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—H. C. Robinson, E. L. Lewis, J. T. Ellison, J. B. T. Sellers, J. S. Slaughter, B. F. Roundtree, R. B. Kirkland, W. M. Lewis, M. D. Young, James Wilson, H. B. Baldwin, E. E. Poole, E. Edwards.

Admitted.—J. Holland, R. Williams, J. J. S. Miles, J. W. Atkins, W. G. Faucett, H. Harrison.

Dimitted.—Francis Keenan.

EAST PORT, No. 94—EAST PORT, TISHOMINGO COUNTY. (1847.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1847; chartered, Feb. 21, 1848.

(Report from November 1, 1847, to January 18, 1848.)

Officers.—C. W. McCord, W. M.; Lorenzo Hitchcock, S. W.; Wright W. Bonds, J. W.; James M. Coman, Treasurer; John McMechan, Secretary; Derosey Carroll, S. D.; Geo. L. Mingo, J. D.; J. C. Welch, S. and Tyler.

Member.—John M. Thompson.

Initiated.—Wm. H. Muse, Jos. T. Terry, Wm. Winburn, Shelby Ussary, Ballard D. Dean, Albert M. Scruggs, John H. Scruggs, James F. Grisham, Jas. Penn, A. B. Emmerson.

Passed.—J. Kendall.

QUITMAN, U. D.—VERA CRUZ, MEXICO. (1847.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1847; chartered, Feb. 17, 1848.

(Report from October 29, 1847, to January 1, 1848.)

Officers.—J. M. Doer, W. M.; L. Hart, S. W.; J. Daniels, J. W.; G. Simpson, Treasurer; B. D. Hyam, Secretary; G. P. Ogden, S. D.; J. E. Gary, J. D.; —, Matosy, S. and Tyler.

Members.—J. F. Bashold, Daniel Nickels, Thomas Hemming, A. J. Hedrick, E. J. Dennison, N. H. Nash, A. Besanson, G. Cruisky, E. D. Cone, C. Hoppin, G. C. Farquhar, G. H. Hail, H. L. Hewlett.

Initiated.—Wm. Stallworth, David Nelligen, F. C. Cassonet, W. Terkrink, Robert Bell, W. Murphy, C. B. Fisher, J. D. Wilkinson, L. William, G. McC. Roulston, W. L. Weem.

Initiated and Passed.—C. E. Patterson, P. Miller, H. Aldriche, H. J. Stansbury, R. W. Heath.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—D. S. McDowell, B. D. Hyam, Henry S. Hewlett, N. H. Nash, A. J. Hedrick.

EMORY, No. 95—EMORY, HOLMES COUNTY. (1848.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1847; chartered, Feb. —, 1848.

(Report from August 9, 1847, to Feb. 19, 1848.)

Officers.—Moses B. Rodgers, W. M.; L. D. Langford, S. W.; William Anderson, J. W.; Thompson Wilson, Treasurer; James A. Lundy, Secretary; Albert B. Harris, S. D.; Wm. Farr, J. D.; Wm. Ellis, S. and Tyler.

Members.—T. J. Johnson, John P. Houston, A. A. Wilson, Wm. R. Martin, J. L. Mitchie, Jeremiah Porter, James A. Cawthon, Michael Clowther, Wilson Anderson.

Initiated and Passed.—Thos. Hewitt, D. O. Alexander.

Passed and Raised.—T. J. Johnson.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Jeremiah Porter, Jas. T. Cawthon, J. P. Hughston, J. J. Mitchie, A. A. Wilson, Wilson Anderson.

Admitted.—Wm. R. Martin, Michael Clowther.

ST. JOHNS, (2nd Regiment,) U. D. (1847.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1847; surrendered, 1849.

Officers.—John A. Wilcox, W. M.; C. C. Chime, S. W.; W. J. Daniels, J. W.,

W. H. Lott, Treasurer ; W. P. Baugh, Secretary ; J. G. Steele, S. D.; W. E. Rodgers, J. D.; F. Page, S. and Tyler.

Members.—M. S. White, A. H. Weaver, C. S. Coffey, M. J. C. Quinine, R. Cleland, A. S. Hamilton, C. M. Stinner, James McClain, J. A. McQueen, A. J. Scrivner, J. J. Gage, J. J. Melvin, W. C. Hamilton, J. M. Lidell, J. D. Gray, Thos. Davenport, S. W. Ritchie, A. Hulbert, W. F. Balgudridge, T. Stratton, W. H. Jackson, W. H. Harris, H. J. Davis, W. C. Lauderdale, J. K. David, J. C. Barkley, W. Barksdale, P. F. Lidell, E. Dowsing, T. N. Love, R. S. Cromer, D. Weaver, B. W. Alexander, T. B. Hight, W. N. Griffin, J. Askew, G. M. Shaw, W. B. Harper, A. M. Jackson, G. S. Tobin, R. S. Howell, W. W. Williams, J. C. Rogers, D. A. Kinchloe, D. M. Jackson, R. Watson, R. M. Calhoun, J. W. N. Dick, U. M. Darden, C. W. Fitzell, John Harrod, H. Ward, J. N. Haley, M. McGerry, Z. N. Davis, J. A. Moncreif, J. W. Gunnels, W. B. Green, W. R. Thomas, J. O'Brein, W. P. Swarts, J. A. Morrel, B. B. Winkfield, R. Hamilton, W. Tongue, T. Bennett, A. J. Jackson, G. H. P. Boid, C. J. Lidell, George Barrows, P. Brill, J. H. Singleton, B. Hunt, P. H. Truly, B. F. Workman, B. F. Ross, D. W. Morrison, J. O. Heslip, J. L. Goforth, John Hines, E. Reed, G. W. Wiltshire, M. M. Henry.

Initiated.—S. D. Postlethwaite, J. C. Smith.

Initiated and Passed.—B. Matthews.

Passed and Raised.—W. R. Thomas.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—W. H. Jackson, W. H. Harris, H. J. Davis, W. C. Lauderdale, J. K. David, J. C. Barkley, W. Barksdale, B. F. Lidell, E. Dowsing, T. N. Love, R. S. Cromer, D. Weaver, J. Martin, B. W. Alexander, T. B. Hight, W. N. Griffith, J. Askew, G. N. Shaw, W. B. Harper, A. M. Jackson, G. S. Tobin, B. S. Howell, J. M. Goodman, W. W. Williams, J. C. Rogers, D. A. Kinchloe, D. M. Jackson, R. Watson, R. N. Calhoun, J. W. N. Dick, U. M. Darden, C. W. Fitzell, Jno. Harrold, H. Ward, M. J. Box, J. N. Haley, M. McGarey, Z. N. Davis, J. A. Moncrief, J. W. Gunnels, W. B. Green, J. O'Brein, A. J. James, W. P. Swarts, J. A. Morrel, C. B. Wickfield, R. Hamilton, W. Tongue, T. Bennett, A. J. Jackson, O. H. P. Boid, C. J. Lidell, Geo. Barrows, P. Brill, J. H. Singleton, B. Hunt, P. H. Truly, B. F. Workman, J. O. Heslip, J. L. Goforth, Jno Hines, E. Reed, G. W. Wiltshire, M. M. Henry.

Admitted.—Charles Clark, M. S. White.

Dimitted.—W. C. Faulkner, M. J. Box, A. McWillie, W. S. Walker, John Martin, B. C. Buckley, A. J. James, J. M. Goodman.

Suspended.—James E. Selby.

Died.—C. W. Fitzell.

Rejected.—B. Matthews, 3d degree ; J. C. Smith, 2nd degree ; M. C. Tippet, Wm. Long, J. J. Stine, W. H. Thomas.

LOUISIANA LODGES.

Reports of the following Lodges in Louisiana, organized under dispensations from the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, appear in the Proceedings for 1848, pp. 151-157 :

GEORGE WASHINGTON, U. D., (afterwards No. 1, La.) commencing Feb. 22, 1847, ending February 9, 1848.

LAFAYETTE, U. D., (afterwards No. 2, La.) commencing Feb. 22, 1847, ending 3d February, 1848.

WARREN, U. D., (afterwards No. 3, La.) commencing 1st March, 1847, ending 8th February, 1848.

MARION, U. D., (afterwards No. 4, La.) commencing March 30, 1847, ending February 15, 1848.

CRESCENT CITY, U. D., (afterwards No. 5, La.) commencing June 11, 1847 ending February 21, 1848.

HIRAM, U. D., (afterwards No. 6, La.) commencing November, 1847, ending February 15, 1848.

EUREKA, U. D., (afterwards No. 7, La.) commencing December —, 1847, ending February 2, 1848

RICHMOND, No. 97—RICHMOND, ITAWAMBA COUNTY. (1848.)

Dispensation granted, Feb. 21, 1848; chartered, Jan. 17, 1849.

(Report from May 3, 1848, to January 5, 1849.)

Officers.—Samuel Henderson, W. M.; A. Thomason, S. W.; James P. Bold-
ing, J. W.; W. D. Thomason, Treasurer; A. H. Raymond, Secretary; Wm.
B. Roberson, S. D.; John H. Barton, J. D.; Hugh M. Rogers, S. and Tyler.

Members.—John C. Ritchie, John Capshaw, Robt. S. Wren, John W. Jackson,
J. P. Henderson, Albert James, George B. Thomason, William Murphy, Josiah
Roberts, A. R. Chilcoat, A. S. Wear, R. H. Gregory, William C. McDow, Jos.
K. Jamison, Barnard Trice, Wm. M. Priestley, J. F. McGaughy.

Initiated.—Paul H. Tiller, Neil McDuffe, John R. Wren, S. D. Stegall, A. J.
McWilliams, Jas. W. Crayton.

Initiated and Passed.—J. A. W. Bradley, A. B. Hubbard, James Bombley.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—A. H. Raymond, A. S. Wear, J. P. Henderson,
J. W. Jackson, Wm. Murphy, G. C. Thomason, A. James, J. Roberts, Bar-
nard Trice, A. R. Chilcoat, Wm. C. McDow, R. H. Gregory, Wm. M. Priestley,
J. K. Jamison, J. F. McGaughy.

Admitted.—Hugh M. Rodgers.

Dimitted.—Thos. J. Cook.

Expelled.—Paul H. Tiller, E. A.

Rejected.—Martin Goss, Geo. W. Withers.

UTICA, No. 98—UTICA, HINDS COUNTY. (1848.)

Dispensation granted, Feb. 21, 1848; chartered, January 17, 1849.

(Report from March 18, 1848, to December 27, 1848.)

Officers.—E. R. Strickland, W. M.; John Farris, S. W.; J. W. Brown, J. W.;
J. H. Campbell, Treasurer; W. D. Harris, Secretary; J. C. Nixon, S. D.; J. M.
Davis, J. D.; J. B. Chappell, S. and Tyler.

Members.—John F. Burnett, P. G. Johnston, Robert Dean, G. W. Mimms,
James McElwee, John Cook, P. Stubbs, N. Anderson, H. H. Hudson, Thos.
Hutchins, C. J. Broom, John Anderson, Alex. Robinson, J. W. Hampton,
Robert Bain, W. C. Hicks, James White, N. B. Ward, R. H. Eastham.

Initiated.—Isaac A. Simms.

Initiated and Passed.—H. G. Parks, L. J. Fatheree.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—P. Stubbs, H. H. Hudson, T. J. Hutchins, C. J.
Broom, J. Anderson, A. Robinson, J. H. Lucas, J. W. Hampton, Robert Bain,
W. C. Hicks, James White, N. B. Ward, R. H. Eastham, E. Livingston.

Dimitted.—E. Livingston, J. H. Lucas.

Rejected.—J. W. Floyd.

NORTH Mt. PLEASANT, No. 99—NORTH Mt. PLEASANT, MARSHALL COUNTY. (1848.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1848 ; chartered, Jan. 17, 1849.

(Report from March 23, 1848, to December 27, 1848.)

Officers.—B. G. Lawrence, W. M.; H. S. Rodgers, S. W.; G. B. Moore, J. W., John M. Rodgers, Treasurer ; C. W. Old, Secretary ; J. G. Warren, S. D.; Stansel Woods, J. D.; C. McFadden, S. and Tyler.

Members.—J. M. Coopwood, R. S. Jones, George W. Gray, John A. Polk, J. W. McElroy, John G. Taylor, H. B. Bowden, Sam'l Williams, V. N. Garrison, D. A. Davidson, W. J. Coopwood, John J. Stegar, H. N. Burditt, W. W. Bowers, J. W. Coopwood, F. H. Davis, D. C. White, F. A. Payne, J. D. Sales, R. L. Quinn, J. R. Trousdale, Asa Pipkin, W. W. Johnson, J. B. Hunter, J. M. Reese, J. M. Spencer, Wm. T. Ivey, L. B. T. Robertson, A. Lynch.

Initiated.—W. J. Coopwood, C. W. Teel, P. M. Teel, J. M. Ruse, J. B. Hunter.

Initiated and Passed.—J. M. Spencer.

Passed.—H. N. Burditt.

Passed and Raised.—S. C. Warren, R. S. Jones, John J. Stegar.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—J. A. Polk, A. Lynch, J. G. Gaylor, J. A. Burditt, Sam'l Williams, V. N. Garrison, H. B. Bowden, H. N. Burditt, W. W. Bowers, J. W. Coopwood, J. C. Teel, F. H. Davis, D. C. White, F. A. Payne, J. D. Sales, R. L. Quinn, John Trousdale.

Admitted.—Stansel Wood, Wm. Holt, Thomas Banks.

Dimitted.—J. A. Burditt, A. Hamill, J. W. Dismukes, J. C. Teel, C. W. Teel, P. M. Teel.

Reinstated.—G. S. Howell, J. C. Barret, J. F. Cloud, M. M. Bledsoe, C. L. Martin.

DESOTO, No. 100—COCKRUM'S CROSS ROADS, DESOTO COUNTY. (1848.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1848 ; chartered, January 17, 1849.

(Report from January 1, 1848, to December 28, 1848.)

Officers.—James W. Morris, W. M.; J. A. Stevens, S. W.; B. L. Jones, J. W.; A. F. Cole, Treasurer ; M. B. Jones, Secretary ; W. A. Page, S. D.; W. N. Brown, J. D.; Robert Jamison, S. and Tyler.

Members.—W. F. Jones, E. L. Jones, E. J. Ellis, John C. Avara, W. W. Cockrum, Thomas L. Dunlap.

Initiated.—J. L. Simpkins.

Initiated and Passed.—W. P. Bowen, T. B. Henderson.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—W. F. Jones, E. L. Jones, E. J. Ellis, J. C. Avara, W. W. Cockrum.

Rejected.—Thomas B. Henderson, F. C.

PALO ALTO, U. D.*—PALO ALTO, CHICKASAW COUNTY. (1848.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1848 ; chartered Jan. 17, 1849.

(Report from July 20, 1848 to December 27, 1848.)

Officers.—Hugh Quinn, W. M.; Jason Holley, S. W.; Henry M. Ivy, J. W.;

John Hudson, Treasurer ; L. D. Carrington, Secretary ; Wm. H. Southgate, S. D.; Chas. F. English, J. D.; Wm. Dow, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Walter M. Bennett, Wm. A. Pickens.

Initiated.—O. D. Haygood.

Passed and Raised.—Wm. A. Pickens.

Raised.—W. M. Bennett.

* Now chartered as Malone No. 101.

WAYNE, No. 102—MILTONVILLE, WAYNE COUNTY. (1848.)

Dispensation granted —, 1848 ; chartered January 17, 1849.

(Report from September 25, 1848, to December 27, 1848.)

Officers.—Benjamin Estis, W. M. Alfred Yates, S. W.; John H. Horne, J. W.; Geo. E. Tool, Treasurer ; James M. Stoddard, Secretary ; Jno. H. Ogborne, S. D.; Freeman Snow, J. D.; Jno Gillis, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Thos. Y. Armstrong, Samuel Jones, G. W. Harris, Alexander McLendon, Alfred Tool, Hugh Sheridan, Wm. G. Horn, H. R. Callis, Wm. Monk, John West, Jno. M. Frost.

Initiated.—F. A. McRea, Alfred Fail, Thos. Cooper.

Initiated and Passed.—D. H. Ryan.

Passed and Raised.—Wm. Monk.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—H. Sheridan, W. G. Horne.

Rejected.—Benjamin F. Collins.

SHARON, No. 103—SHARON, MADISON COUNTY. (1848.)

Dispensation granted —, 1848 ; chartered Jan. 17, 1849.

(Report from November 9, 1848, to January 15, 1849.)

Officers.—Weyman Adair, W. M.; N. B. Whitehead, S. W.; A. H. Lamar, J. W.; M. J. McKie, Treasurer ; P. J. Eckles, Secretary ; O. W. Baldwin, S. D.; G. M. Rogers, J. D.; J. J. Lamar, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Jno. J. Gage, Jas. A. Dennis, E. M. Fielder, W. W. Devine.

Initiated and Passed.—John W. Griffin, Ira O. Wise.

COAHOMA, No. 104—FRIAR'S POINT, COAHOMA COUNTY. (1848.)

Dispensation granted —, 1848 ; chartered Jan. 17, 1849.

(Report from December 9, 1848, to December 27, 1848.)

Officers.—T. M. Nash, W. M.; Jas. E. Mattingley, S. W.; P. Poindexter, J. W.; R. C. Friar, Treasurer ; Jno. D. Shaw, Secretary ; Geo. B. Warren, S. D.; J. L. Alcorn, J. D.; G. W. Malone, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Aaron Shelby, Thos. Law, P. L. Porter.

Initiated.—W. Howard Grey, A. J. Jordan, A. W. Eldridge.

PEARL RIVER, No. 105—CARTHAGE, LEAKE COUNTY. (1848.)

Dispensation granted —, 1848 ; chartered Jan. 17, 1849.

(Report from July 28, 1848, to January 5, 1849.)

Officers.—L. D. Williams, W. M.; Alanson Keith, S. W.; D. S. McDonald, J. W.; Alanson Goss, Treasurer; John A. Hanson, Secretary; E. M. Chat-ham, S. D.; Samuel McCain, J. D.; Alexander Walker, S. and Tyler.

Members.—D. R. Roach, Thos. A. Batile, W. B. Harper, R. E. Halford, G. W. Stanger, W. M. Hall, T. B. Harris, R. J. Hall, Henry Collier, W. P. Mor-row, W. S. Bonner, Arthur Foster, Dempsey Maroney, A. H. Leflore, A. J. Bobbit.

Initiated.—Samuel Morrow.

Initiated and Passed.—Samuel Johnson, H. S. Rawls, J. M. Hooper.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—R. E. Halford, G. W. Stanger, W. M. Hall, T. B. Harris, R. J. Hall, Henry Collier, W. P. Morrow, W. J. Bonner, Arthur Foster, D. Marony, H. H. Leflore, A. B. Bobbit.

Dimitted.—Alexander Walker.

UNION, No. 106—MT. CARMEL, COVINGTON COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849 ; chartered Feb. 5, 1849.

(Report from February 8, 1849, to January 5, 1850.)

Officers.—A. S. Kotwitz, W. M.; Wm. Harrison, S. W.; A. Hartzog, J. W.; S. H. Walker, Treasurer; James M. White, Secretary, M. A. Robertson, S. D.; John Newsom, J. D.; Samuel Walden, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Charles Brinson, A. Lott.

Initiated.—Lely Lewis.

Initiated and Passed.—D. C. McKenzie.

Passed and Raised.—Wm. Newsom.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—S. H. Walker, H. W. Griffith, J. B. Hutchins, T. P. Holloway, John Storms, Isaac Williams, J. P. Terrell, Daniel McInnis, T. H. Brinson, E. S. Walden, J. G. Magee, C. McLaurin, A. M. Laird, F. R. Walpool, Willis Magee, F. M. Polk, Wm. Williams, E. M. Wylie.

Rejected.—J. W. Deen, William Griffith, J. T. Polk, J. W. Moore, M. M. Lott, Lely Lewis for 2nd degree.

BETHEL, No. 107—BURKETTSVILLE, ATTALA COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849 ; chartered February 5, 1850.

(Report from January 2, 1849, to December 27, 1849.)

Officers.—John J. Logue, W. M.; J. D. Magill, S. W.; B. F. Wroe, J. W.; L. B. Thompson, Treasurer; Lewis A. Powell, Secretary; John H. Cane, S. D.; J. B. Cook, J. D.; S. W. Hyman, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Seth Robinson, Lewis G. Bryant, A. G. Greene, J. L. Jolly, E. Herrington, Robert Hodge, Isaac Willis, Wm. B. Greene, H. D. Palmer, W. H. White, James C. Powell, Wm. Kelly, Samuel Little, F. F. Cudd, Jas. T. Mc-Afee, W. H. Seat, W. W. Adams, Lunsford Ayres, A. H. Greene, John H. Evans, Madison Bigby, N. Campbell, B. J. Conner, J. T. Williams, T. Price, J. W. Thompson, Jos B. Henderson.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—W. H. White, H. D. Palmer, John H. Evans, Joseph C. Powell, L. Ayres, Jos. C. Thompson, William Kelly, Samuel Little F. F. Cudd, W. W. Adams, M. Bigby, N. Campbell, B. S. Connor, T. Price, J. T. McAfee, W. H. Seat, J. T. Williams, J. B. Henderson.

Dimitted.—Robert Hodge, Joseph B. Henderson.

Suspended.—J. L. Jolly.

Expelled.—E. Herrington.

Rejected.—T. D. Beal, Joel Bruce, E. Simms, — Galloway, John Thompson, John Thornton.

CARROLLVILLE, No. 108—CARROLLVILLE, TISHOMINGO COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849 ; chartered Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1849.)

Officers.—Josiah Roberts, W. M.; John Barton, S. W.; Wm. D. King, J. V. James M. Johnston, Treasurer ; Thomas B. Stubbs, Secretary ; James H. Kennedy, S. D.; H. Rainbolt, J. D.; A. J. Taylor, S. and Tyler.

Members.—John H. Booth, James S. Gillman, Thomas L. Smith, Levi C. Davis, Edward Strange, Robt. E. Burton, John Flint, Uriah Narmy, Wm. B. Burrow, William L. Allen, Wm. M. Henderson, John Fortner, Richard B. Clayton, Rolla W. Robinson.

Initiated and Passed.—Israel Cox, W. M. Belsher.

Passed and Raised.—W. L. Allen.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—James M. Johnson, John F. Booth, A. J. Taylor, H. Rainbolt, Thomas B. Stubbs, Levi C. Davis, J. H. Kennedy, Thomas L. Smith, W. B. Burrow, R. E. Burton, John Flint, James Gillemman, E. Strange.

Died.—J. D. W. Rhodes.

Rejected.—John G. Thompson.

DANVILLE, No. 109—DANVILLE, TISHOMINGO COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849 ; chartered Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1849.)

Officers.—R. H. Boone, W. M.; B. Ligon, S. W.; John H. Cook, J. W.; E. C. Gilemivatus, Treasurer ; W. A. Taylor, Secretary ; James Suitor, S. D.; W. G. Nolin, J. D.; B. H. Estes, S. and Tyler.

Members.—J. H. Davis, Martin Savage, John Taylor, J. Marcus Taylor, Co-day Fowler, H. Nance, T. P. Reynolds, B. H. Estes, A. B. Dilworth, John H. Keith, W. H. Bryant, W. H. Pate, John Brown, C. W. Williams, John Reece, A. E. Reynolds, John M. Howell.

Initiated.—A. M. Phelps, S. B. Burn, J. Abernathy, Isham Holmes, Joseph Hesier, Peyton G. Jones.

Raised.—J. H. Davis, Martin Savage.

Passed and Raised.—A. E. Reynolds.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—John Taylor, J. N. Taylor, C. Fowler, H. A. Nance, T. P. Reynolds, B. H. Estes, A. B. Dilworth, H. G. Wade, Elias Jackson, J. H. Keith, W. H. Bryant, W. Pate, John Brown, C. W. Williams, John Reece, John M. Howell.

Admitted.—A. H. Booth, C. B. Butler.

Dimitted.—Elias Jackson, H. G. Wade.

Died.—Lerois Rolfe.

Expelled.—A. M. Cross.

Non-Affiliated.—David Codell.

CARPENTER, U. D.*—ROCKY SPRINGS, CLAIBORNE COUNTY. (1848.)

Dispensation granted —, 1848 ; chartered Feb. 6, 1848.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1849.)

Officers.—Jas. R. Coleman, W. M.; Absalom H. Bobo, S. W.; B. F. Herst, J. W.; Saml. McLellan, Treasurer; Robert Dean, Secretary; William J. Lum, S. D.; T. J. Hutchins, J. D.; W. R. Lackey, S. and Tyler.

Members.—James H. Patterson, T. Hutchins, Allen S. Darden, Joseph H. Moor, John Row, Samuel McComb, W. P. Womack, James E. Boyse, Isaac Simms, Joseph Regan, D. S. Patterson, James E. W. Cook.

Initiated.—Wm. Hutchins.

Initiated and Passed.—John Fisher.

Passed and Raised.—Isaac Sims.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—W. J. Lum, T. Hutchins, A. S. Darden, S. McLellan, W. R. Lackey, Joseph H. Moore, John Row, Samuel McComb, James Merrels, W. P. Pool, John P. Brenton, J. J. Wilkins, W. P. Womack, James E. Boyse, Joseph Regan, J. E. W. Cook.

Dimitted.—J. J. Wilkins, W. P. Pool, John P. Brenton.

Rejected.—John S. Coombs, Gadi Gibson, S. A. Kee.

* This Lodge is now chartered as Claiborne, No. 110.

MOSES COOK, No. 111—GAINSVILLE, HANCOCK COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1849 ; chartered, Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1849.)

Officers.—N. Corley, W. M.; C. A. Folsom, S. W.; T. Leonard, J. W.

Members.—W. H. Arnold, John Martin, Green J. Wooton, R. Montgomery.

Initiated.—E. F. Russ.

Initiated and Passed.—Redding Byrd, James H. Byrd.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Rufus O. Pray.

BOVINA, No. 112—BOVINA, WARREN COUNTY. (1859.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849 ; chartered Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending January 30, 1850.)

Officers.—John Hebron, W. M.; James C. Newman, S. W.; James M. Spears, J. W.; G. A. Chappell, Treasurer; A. C. Downs, Secretary; Stephen Barefield, S. D.; A. F. Newman, J. D.

Initiated.—William Orr, N. B. Batchelor.

Initiated and Passed.—Thomas Clark, Elisha Fox, N. B. Cook.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—E. G. Marble, Percival Marble, D. A. Cameron, Thos. B. Brabston, William Cox, Alex. Newton, John B. Holt, James Crouch, Sam. M. Edwards, E. H. Bryan, Isaac Whitaker, James A. Folkes.

HYLAND, No. 113—WARRENTON, WARREN COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849 ; chartered Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending January, 1850.)

Officers.—W. R. Pucket, W. M.; James McAlister, S. W.; T. W. Tompkins, J. W.; H. Heisenbukle,* Treasurer ; Wm. H. Turner, Secretary ; James Glass,* S. D.; Wm. B. Guy,* J. D.; James Gardner,* S. and Tyler.

Members.—Elijah H. Pace, Daniel B. Naylor, John W. Hannah, John Smithers.

Passed and Raised.—D. S. Sexton.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—James Glass, H. Heisenbukle, E. J. Sessions, Wm. B. Guy, James Gardner, John N. LeGrand, Thos. C. Bedford, S. J. Goodrum, W. S. Hyland, Wm. H. Phillipps, Robert Campbell, D. Magnadise, Joel D. Hullum, H. H. Goodrum, Geo. McNabb, Henry Hyland.

* Not members but hold the offices *pro tempore*.

LOWNDES, No. 114—COLUMBUS, LOWNDES COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849 ; chartered Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1849.)

Officers.—Sam. B. Malone, W. M.; Robert D. Hayden, S. W.; E. C. Eggleston, J. W.; Hardy Stephens, Treasurer ; Oscar T. Keeler, Secretary ; A. G. Weir, S. D.; A. W. Lampkin, J. D.; —, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Elias B. Fort, James Hayden, T. W. Harris, Sr., Jacob Isaacs, C. McLarin, John R. Mason, William Myat, Peter A. Mullin, John T. Ridley, Edwin Stevens, John N. Spears, Wm. Spillman, Scott Thompson, Dan'l. Williams, Isaac Williams, Elias B. Ward.

Initiated.—John Gratton, John N. Mullin.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Wm. Spillman, Jacob Isaacs.

BYHALIA, No. 115—HORN, MARSHALL COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849 ; chartered Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1849.)

Officers.—Henry Moore, W. M.; Clayton Hays, S. W.; Geo Thompson, J. W.; Horatio Tyson, Treasurer ; Anderson Arnold, Secretary ; Clark C. White, S. D.; James Goodrich, J. D.; Silas T. Coleman, Tyler ; Joseph E. Horn, Steward.

Members.—James S. Rodgers, A. T. Scruggs, Wm. B. Thornton, J. B. Allen.

Initiated.—C. J. Thornton, A. Allen.

Initiated and Passed.—R. B. Whitaker, W. H. Thornton, J. F. Thornton, W. Teams, J. Johnson.

Raised.—Robert Raiford, A. R. Chilton, Wm. Campbell, B. R. Powell, J. B. Owings.

Passed and Raised.—L. J. Capel, John T. Harris.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—R. Raiford, A. R. Chilton, Wm. Campbell, B. R. Powell, J. B. Owings, John Wilson, J. M. Boyce, J. M. Woodson, A. B. Willie, J. C. Parker, J. C. Belden, S. Withers, P. H. Childress, T. W. Pugh, J. S. Collins, J. A. M. Porter.

Rejected.—Dr. G. W. Ewell, M. Rayford, B. Fritzugh, R. J. Tillman, Wm. Best, H. G. Barbee, O. Andrews.

FARMINGTON, No. 116—FARMINGTON, TISHOMINGO COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849; chartered Feb. 5, 1849.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1849.)

Officers.—James C. Reed, W. M.; Pleasant P. Adams, S. W.; James G. Lowrey, J. W.; Benjamin M. Jones, Treasurer; Wm. H. Burriess, Secretary; Jos. Stout, S. D.; H. C. Phillips, J. D.; A. J. Richards, S. and T. p. t.

Members.—E. Newton, S. C. Welch.

Initiated.—John Mayes, W. H. Macy, John M. Suratt, C. W. Bell.

Initiated and Passed.—James M. Saunders.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—J. P. Young, E. Callahan, M. Taylor, J. M. Moore, Josiah T. Boone.

Admitted.—Sidney R. Smith, Benjamin Bruton, H. T. B. Speir, A. J. Richards.

EDWARDS DEPOT, U. D.*—EDWARDS DEPOT, HINDS COUNTY (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849; chartered Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1849.)

Officers.—G. E. Beauchamp, W. M.; R. W. T. Daniel, S. W.; N. B. Sharkey, J. W.; L. Wilkinson, Treasurer, p. t.; M. W. Phillips, Secretary, p. t.; S. W. Montgomery, S. D., p. t.; J. F. Watson, J. D., p. t.; A. K. Barton, S. and T., p. t.

Members.—O. L. Nash, Walter Rossman, Thomas Cooper.

Initiated.—Beverley Blount.

Initiated and Passed.—Tolbert Guilbert, William M. Wells, John McSween-Passed.—J. H. Sims.

Raised.—Jesse Bass.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Robert Kells, A. Kornejoy, J. M. Pace, J. G. Lee.

* Now chartered as Unity No. 117.

CAMARGO, No. 118—CAMARGO, MONROE COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849; chartered Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1849.)

Officers.—John M. White, W. M.; Jos. B. Shearer, S. W.; Barnet S. Trice, J. W.; Richard C. Clark, Treasurer; A. W. Hansel, Secretary; Wm. Hood, S. D.; James D. McAlister, J. D.; Baker Marshall, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Felix L. Battle, H. Hood, W. T. Lamb, R. L. Trice, W. G. Jumper, C. Springer, S. M. Witherspoon.

Initiated.—Alford Roberts, Calvin D. Hood.

Initiated and Passed.—T. W. Trice, C. Springer, Sam. M. Mullen.

Passed.—W. Jumper.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—R. L. Trice, H. Hood, F. L. Battle.

SNOWSVILLE, No. 119—SNOWSVILLE, CHOCTAW COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849; chartered Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1849.)

Officers.—M. G. McMullen, W. M.; Zepheniah Harvey, S. W.; Wm. B.

Smith, J. W.; Robert Webb, Treasurer; Isaac Easterley, Secretary; John E. Weir, S. D.; Wm. Childress, J. D.; Benj. Rook, S. and Tyler.

Initiated.—Jas. Rosemond.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—W. A. Hodge, Henry Wood.

MAGNOLIA, No. 120—BILOXI, HARRISON COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849; chartered Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending December, 27, 1849.)

Officers.—Robert Southerland, W. M.; Daniel Goos, S. W.; John Brown, J. W. Wiley C. Edwards, Treasurer; Wm. H. Morris, Secretary; Stephen Fatheree, S. D., John L. Henley, J. D. p. t.; Isaac Morgan, S. and Tyler.

Members.—G. Gerganus, John Foretich, Jacques Desportes.

Initiated.—Louis E. Pradat, George Reeves, Donald McBean, John B. C. Pradat, C. F. E. Pradat.

Initiated and Passed.—R. Seal.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Wm. H. Cleveland, John L. Henley.

HILL CITY, No. 121—VICKSBURG, WARREN COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849; chartered Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1849.)

Officers.—Wm. H. Stevens, W. M.; Morris Emanuel, S. W.; Nicholas D. Coleman, J. W.

Members.—Charles A. Walton, James A. Campbell, John Fountain, Wm. A. Hamilton, Thomas Rigby, John K. Yerger, John H. Bobb, Wm. H. Johnson, A. C. Dayton, Seymour Halsey, Thos. H. Crawford.

Initiated.—S. B. Wilson, H. P. Hunt, B. Hardaway, G. P. Crump.

Initiated and Passed.—A. Alexander.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Wm. F. Bancks, D. S. Mercein, Thomas Whaley.

TCHULA, No. 122—TCHULA, HOLMES COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849; chartered Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1849.)

Officers.—Jas. Shelton Meng, W. M.; John H. Blake, S. W.; John M. Wascom, J. W.; A. M. Sessions, Treasurer; A. B. Block, Secretary; J. M. Gwin, S. D.; S. N. Baskin, J. D.; W. H. Jones, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Morgan McAfee, J. Revell, T. J. Crockett, A. M. Green, Elihu Boaz, J. T. McGee, J. M. Taylor, A. M. Sessions, J. M. Gwin, A. B. Block, W. M. Jayne, Charles Wise, M. D. Nesbitt, J. N. Baskin, S. N. Dunnaway, W. H. Jones.

Initiated.—A. O. Winn.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—W. H. Johnson, J. P. Williams, J. M. Wyatt.

CEDAR GROVE, U. D.*—OAK RIDGE, WARREN COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849 ; chartered Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending January 27, 1850.)

Officers—Guilford D. Mitchell, W. M.; Benj. F. Johnson, S. W.; J. W. Maybin, J. W.

Members.—J. N. Bradshaw, Carter Jones, Joseph Templeton, R. L. Matthew.

Initiated.—T. H. Hill.

Initiated and Passed.—C. P. Cable, C. H. Green, H. W. Hill.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—W. A. Davis, J. C. Sturdivant.

* Chartered as Oak Ridge, No. 123.

THOMASTOWN, No. 124—THOMASTOWN, LEAKE COUNTY. (1849.)

Dispensation granted —, 1849 ; chartered Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending January 27, 1850.)

Officers.—H. H. Shrock, W. M.; G. H. Roby, S. W.; H. Russell, J. W.; E. Davis, Treasurer ; C. C. Allen, Secretary ; T. L. Cotton, S. D.; —, J. D.; A. Hook, S. and Tyler.

Initiated.—William T. Landrum, J. Foster, W. Colton, J. Ballard.

Rejected.—Matthew McGuire.

CENTRE HILL, No. 125—OLIVE BRANCH, DESOTO COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted Feb. 5, 1850 ; chartered Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—Wm. H. McCargo, W. M.; Jesse S. Tillman, S. W.; Thomas W. Goodrich, J. W.; Thos. H. Wood, Treasurer ; Edwin O. Watson, Secretary ; Joshua W. Stamps, S. D.; Wilkins Goodrich, J. D.; Robert Paine, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Samuel Watson, Benj. Watson, Benj. L. Stewart, B. B. Buchanan, A. L. Stevenson.

Initiated.—J. D. Wimberley, George Heflin.

Initiated and Passed.—James Crutcher, Marmaduke Ellis, Addison Harris.
Passed.—Edwin Paine.

Raised.—Wm. Crutcher, Jacob Joiner, Buckner Abarnathy, Talbert Joiner.

Passed and Raised.—Jeremiah Williams, Edwin Crutcher, John W. Paine, Edwin O. Watson, Thomas H. Wood, John Dugan, William Stewart.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Isham Alsobrook, Hillary Tippet, Milton Lane, Robert R. Davis, James Dement, Joseph Willory, Wm. D. Patterson.

SOLOMON, No. 126—FLEWELLIN'S \bowtie ROADS, DESOTO COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted Feb. 5, 1850 ; chartered Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—Warren A. Page, W. M.; D. H. Griffin, S. W.; J. W. Young, J. W.; R. Jamison, Treasurer ; William D. Lackland, Secretary ; J. S. Baker, S. D.; W. P. Eason, J. D.; S. Flewellin, S. and Tyler.

Members.—R. C. Hancock, Isaac Milam, Jas. S. Simpkins, James T. Reid, Benjamin Price, John R. Wright, James S. Colley, William Martin, T. B. Danforth, S. P. Baker

Initiated.—Amos McNeely.

Initiated and Passed.—William Martin.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—James T. Reid, Benjamin Price, Wm. C. Buford, E. B. Hendree, John R. Wright, James S. Colley, S. P. Baker, William Martin.

FRIENDSHIP, No. 127—SLEDGEVILLE, PANOLA COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted Feb. 5, 1850; chartered Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending January 18, 1851.)

Officers.—Claiborn M. Horton, W. M.; Thomas O. Hunter, S. W.; George R. Hunt, J. W.; Greenville Dowell, Treasurer; Willis W. Jones, Secretary; W. W. Elliott, S. D.; D. L. Childress, J. D.; Elijah Welborn, S. and Tyler.

Members.—D. O. Andrews, C. M. Miles.

Initiated and Passed.—Bennett Bouden, Wm. C. Maxwell.

Raised.—James W. Gray, Madison T. Moore.

Passed.—John W. Flowers, Jas. A. Robertson, Ephraim Phifer.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—James B. Sharp, Benjamin W. Morris, William Edwards, Sanford Wilbourn, Squire B. Porter, Henry C. Horton, William R. Wilbourn, Ed. F. McGhee, Fanning Jones, John D. Keys, Cornelius Dear-den, Joel A. Wall, Robert L. Andrews, John C. Brahorn, William A. Hill, John B. Flowers.

Rejected.—Johnathan L. Neal, Wm. T. Nelms.

TALLALOOSA, No. 128—TALLALOOSA, MARSHALL COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, Feb. 5, 1850; chartered, Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—R. M. Glover, W. M.; William R. Davis, S. W.; R. K. Byrd, J. W.; H. H. Pipkin, Treasurer; William Simmons, Secretary; G. C. Callacoate, S. D.; —, J. D.; L. A. Parker, S. and Tyler.

Initiated.—B. H. Collins, H. R. Walker, A. P. Adkenson.

Initiated and Passed.—J. D. Collins.

Raised.—P. D. King, James King, S. R. Denty.

Passed and Raised.—M. W. Shipp, Thomas Turnage.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—B. Shipp, A. L. Richmond, Henry Parker, M. Parrish, Wm. Talleferro, Wm. B. Peterson, J. C. Kiger, W. R. Shipp, Elias Rodgers, W. W. McMahon.

Rejected.—J. W. Donnevant, Jefferson Rodgers.

PATTON, No. 129—LAUDERDALE SPRINGS, LAUDERDALE COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, Feb. 5, 1850; chartered Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—William S. Patton, W. M.; H. W. Roberts, S. W.; J. A. McMillan,

J. W.; William R. Dennis, Treasurer; William Dearman, Secretary; Wm. J. Wright, S. D.; Ed. W. Smithwick, J. D.; J. M. Bates, S. and Tyler.

Initiated.—S. Tool, John Mundell, N. G. Millan, S. W. Falconer, B. H. Murphy.

Initiated and Passed.—J. R. Murphy, B. King.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—J. M. Bates, W. P. Hobbs, J. M. Pierce, Thomas Grayham, Wm. M. Gaines, S. S. Smithwick, James New, G. W. Miller, S. S. Dennis, T. L. Roberts, P. H. Partin, Robert McKinley, J. W. Peoples

ALAMUTCHIA, No. 130—ALAMUTCHA, LAUDERDALE COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, Feb. 5, 1850; chartered, Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—Daniel S. Wood, W. M.; Thomas E. James, S. W.; Isaac R. Melroy, J. W.; D. M. Portis, Treasurer; T. C. S. White, Secretary; Wesley W. Hall, S. D.; Erwin Barefield, J. D.; Jesse B. Eaves, S. and Tyler.

Members.—B. K. Bragg, J. M. Walker, Elijah Hern, William Newton.

Raised.—Jas. M. McCowan.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Nelson Wood, John Dove, J. A. Bronson, Lewis Lanair, D. N. Cummack, John Ward, Constantine Rea, Asa Waller, Wm. D. Northrup, John H. Robinson, Wm. H. A. Smith.

Rejected.—Franklin P. Browen.

FULTON, No. 131—FULTON, ITAWAMBA COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, Feb. 5, 1850; chartered, Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—William Beachum, W. M.; J. W. Jackson, S. W.; Albert James, J. W.; A. W. Hardy, Treasurer; A. B. Bullard, Secretary; E. L. Hawkins, S. D.; B. F. Chasteen, J. D.; James Brownly, S. and Tyler.

Members.—G. W. Williams, C. C. Glover.

Initiated.—J. D. Reager, Z. Allen, J. H. Nanney, J. O. Biddy.

Passed and Raised.—G. B. Garther, A. J. McWilliams.

Raised.—John W. Lindsay.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—B. B. Ross, L. M. Vernon, H. Gilstrop, William P. Stacy, L. L. Barnard, D. N. Cayce, L. L. Copeland, John W. Martin, E. G. Thomas, John T. Mullins, Osborn Martin, L. Mayfield, W. B. Richardson.

WATER VALLEY, No. 132—WATER VALLEY, YALLOBUSHA COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, Feb. 5, 1850; chartered, Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—P. C. Woods, W. M.; Charles S. Cocke, S. W.; Lewis Lawshe, J. W.; Robert Lusk, Treasurer; P. D. Woods, Secretary; G. W. Carr, S. D.; G. W. Harrall, J. D.; Wm. A. Morrison, S. and Tyler.

Members.—C. W. Cock, B. W. Avant.

Initiated and Passed.—D. F. Rogers, W. B. May.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Alex. Carleton, G. A. Latham, D. W. Rodgers, R. C. Higinbotham, G. W. Rodgers, F. L. Davidson, R. S. McKie, J. C. Hudspeth, F. G. Shipp, M. D. Parks, William Donaldson, L. M. Lawshe, Wm. E. Robinson.

SUMMERVILLE, No. 133—SUMMERVILLE, NOXUBEE COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, Feb. 5, 1850 ; chartered, Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—A. M. Chamberlin, W. M.; T. J. H. Ritchie, S. W.; Thomas W. Reed, J. W.; Joseph N. Riddle, Treasurer ; H. J. Shands, Secretary ; William A. Combs, S. D.; Wm. B. Malone, J. D.; Henry Tool, S. and Tyler.

Members.—John Jackson, David Baughman, William Calloway, John Harber, Jas. R. Burrige, John S. Sullins, Jas. N. Cook, Allen McDonald.

Initiated.—A. J. Bigger, S. J. Brackenridge, W. W. Burrage, A. Roseman, John B. Roberts, William Fulton.

Initiated and Passed.—Daniel Emmonds, Robert W. White.

Passed.—James S. Smythe.

Passed and Raised.—R. Yoe.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—N. C. Penry, James T. Crawford, H. Vandwander, Silas B. Penry, J. W. Harmon.

LODI, No. 134—LODI, CHOCTAW COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1850 , chartered, Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—J. E. Farmer, W. M.; Daniel Sullivan, S. W.; H. S. Farmer, J. W.; M. M. Crenshaw, Treasurer ; Alph. Peebles, Secretary ; A. A. Sullivan, S. D.; W. K. Aldridge, J. D., S. Hill, S. and Tyler.

Initiated—D. Frasier, J. Pittman.

Initiated and Passed.—Z. Middleton, D. Ingram, M. Morris, J. B. Campbell, D. Pitman.

Passed.—W. McChristian.

Raised.—Robert Morrow.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—H. Loggins, N. Lamb, M. Morris, J. Y. Oliver, Wm. Dyre, J. P. Trotter.

GREENWOOD, No. 135—GREENWOOD, CARROLL COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1850 ; chartered, Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—William Wheless, W. M.; Wm. P. Gunn, S. W.; N. S. Neal, J. W.; Godfrey Stamell, Treasurer ; Abram Forrest, Secretary ; Joseph H. Doyle, S. D.; Jas. H. Nelson, J. D.; S. Hirsh, S. and Tyler.

Initiated.—Alfred Murdoch.

Raised.—A. C. Rose.

Passed and Raised.—Jas. M. Watt.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Robert Etinger, John T. Reedy, F. G. Crawford.

FALCONER, No. 137—CLARKE COUNTY.* (1850.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1850 ; chartered Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—Wm. B. Slater, W. M.; Sohn L. Sansom, S. W.; Daniel McCall, J. W.; Elias Hailes, Treasurer; Benjamin Blakeney, Secretary; M. Gardner, S. D.; ———, J. D.; James Knight, S. and Tyler.

Initiated.—S. Pake.

Raised.—James L. Sansom.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Benj. McCarty, John E. Wright, Wm. E. Sansom, W. B. Lindsey.

* Communications of this Lodge were held at the house of John L. Sansom.

MELLEN, No. 138—CHUNKEYVILLE, LAUDERDALE COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1850 ; chartered, Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—E. Brown, W. M.; R. N. Calhoun, S. W.; G. B. Stiles, J. W.; R. West, Treasurer; G. M. Gillaspie, Secretary; S. D. Brown, S. D.; J. W. Rabon, J. D.; J. Grice, S. and Tyler.

Member.—W. D. Lovelady.

Initiated.—A. P. Steeth.

Initiated and Passed.—J. Watkins.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—A. E. Gray, R. D. Ozletree, B. E. Lloyd, J. G. Gardner, J. Maxwell, W. Hann, J. W. Laturne, Darlin Dear, S. H. Stanley, W. H. Lacy, H. D. Jones, T. J. Holdman, W. R. Jackson, T. J. West, D. Rich, S. Pierce, R. Y. Rasberry.

Rejected.—J. F. Ginnings, D. R. McHithin, Isaac Sant.

CASTILIAN, No. 139—CASTILIAN SPRINGS, HOLMES COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1850 ; chartered, Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending January 28, 1851.)

Officers.—C. T. Murphy, W. M.; H. B. McGee, S. W.; James W. Rogers, J. W.; Samson Botters, Treasurer; Leroy Boyett, Secretary; R. H. Montgomery, S. D.; Samuel W. Red, J. D.; C. A. Wood, S. and Tyler.

Members.—A. B. West, J. M. Wrens, W. T. Seitzler, G. W. Cook, W. N. Covington, B. D. Gerell, James W. Red.

Initiated.—J. Morten, Stephen Horton.

Initiated and Passed.—W. D. Bealle.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—W. F. Strother, David Burns, W. M. Rogers, W. C. Red, Samuel Sprates.

BENELA, No. 140—BENELA, CALHOUN COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1850 ; chartered, Feb. 5. 1851.

Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—B. Nichols, W. M.; Silas W. Land, S. W.; A. F. Lord, J. W.; T. T. Enochs, Treasurer; Saml. McCright, Secretary; D. D. Williams, S. D.; G. M. Christian, J. D.; H. M. White, S. and Tyler.

Initiated.—N. B. Shannon, J. J. J. Ramsey.

Passed and Raised.—James McCreary.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—F. L. Steel, E. D. Stevens, James McCright, W. H. Skinner, T. R. Burns, R. H. Rhoads, W. B. Fandren, Lazarus Sallas, B. C. Williams, Jas. F. Walker, M. Herring.

Rejected.—Ferguson Rea.

WATERFORD, No. 141—WATERFORD, MARSHALL COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1850 ; chartered, Feb. 5. 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—B. L. Milam, W. M.; Joel E. Wynne, S. W.; John Vankanon, J. W.; T. J. Malone, Treasurer; J. T. Heraldson, Secretary; William E. Lynch, S. D.; Samuel M. Allen, J. D.; Robert Cherry, S. and Tyler.

Members.—T. J. Malone, S. M. Ivey.

JACINTO, No. 142—JACINTO, TISHOMINGO COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1850 ; chartered, Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending January 10, 1851.)

Officers.—A. B. Dilworth, W. M.; E. C. Gilenwaters, S. W.; John Stewart, J. W.; John Taylor, Treasurer; W. W. Banda, Secretary; A. E. Reynolds, S. D.; M. Seamans, J. D.; D. R. Carley, S. and Tyler.

Member.—T. P. Reynolds.

Initiated.—J. W. Givins, C. G. Pardue, G. W. Key, Thos. Bashers.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—B. N. Kinyan, Wiley Swinney, James M. Patrick, John F. Arnold.

DALTON, No. 143—ABERDEEN, MONROE COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1850 ; chartered, Feb. 5, 1850.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—Sandford C. Blankston, W. M.; Sterling L. Paine, S. W.; Orville C. Bumpass, J. W.

Members.—R. M. Gunn, John Paine, Davis H. Morgan, George F. Manning, James D. Tatum, D. F. Alexander, Jas. J. Sykes, Hiram Carver, Albert G. Prewett, David K. Fooshee, Jerome L. Webb, Thomas Holliday.

Initiated.—Fred. Corbin.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—J. B. Webb, T. Holliday.

Admitted.—J. J. Sykes, H. Carver, A. G. Prewett, D. K. Fooshee.

DABNEY LIPSCOMB, No. 144—CRAWFORDSVILLE, LOWNDES COUNTY.
(1850.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1850 ; chartered, Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December, 27, 1850.)

Officers.—Scott Thompson, W. M. E. H. Gregory, S. W.; A. H. Roby, J. W.; A. Farmer, Treasurer ; W. W. Hunt, Secretary ; S. H. Adams, S. D.; A. G. Roby, J. D.; F. Randle, S. and Tyler.

Members.—James A. Dillard, R. E. Dismukes.

Initiated.—Wm. Morgan, D. B. Norwood, W. W. Wiley, William H. Simmons.

Initiated and Passed.—J. B. Russell.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—P. H. Whitlock, Jesse Smith, J. H. B. Fields, John Norwood, W. H. Hargrove, A. W. Richards, A. R. Jones, G. W. Alford.

Rejected.—Joseph G. Thompson, Sr., Jos. G. Thompson, Jr., Benjamin T. Freeman, L. J. H. Foster.

LOXAHOMA, No. 145—LOXAHOMA, DESOTO COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1850 ; chartered, Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—William T. Cole, W. M.; William E. Baker, S. W.; John S. Logan, J. W.; Elkanah, Echols, Treasurer ; Wm. P. Womack, Secretary ; Willoby R. Collins, S. D.; Wm. R. Baker, J. D.

Initiated.—R. K. Garrett, J. Thomason, A. Graham, J. D. Shannon, J. H. Adkins.

Initiated and Passed.—J. B. Johnson, S. H. Lyon, J. Garrett, A. Cathey, S. T. Crockett.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—S. P. Johnson, J. A. Drennon, W. S. Brown, B. F. Walker.

JEFFERSON, No. 146—SCOOPA, KEMPER COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1850 ; chartered, Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—J. Cross Jones, W. M.; Calvin Anderson, S. W.; J. L. Whitsett, J. W.; M. Jackson, Treasurer ; W. H. P. Powe, Secretary ; Jas. Dunlap, S. D.; Thos. R. Shurmund, J. D.; J. C. Carnathan, S. and Tyler.

Members.—W. Harper, F. J. Camber.

Initiated.—B. E. Cannon, E. A. Jackson.

Initiated and Passed.—H. Whitsett.

BAY ST. LOUIS, No. 147—SHIELDSBOROUGH, HANCOCK COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1850 ; chartered, Feb. 5, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—Cadwalader Lewis, W. M.; Julius C. Monett, S. W.; John Martin,

J. W.; J. H. Williams, Treasurer ; Ro. W. Carr, Secretary ; John Graves, S. D.; Joseph Anderson, J. D.; James B. Mitchell, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Joseph Bruneau, Miguel Marti, Francis Leech.

Initiated.—D. W. Johnson, John V. Toulme, James A. Ulman, Auguste Lafitte, P. No. Guardia.

Dimitted.—Manuel Muniz.

LAMAR, No. 148—LAMAR, MARSHALL COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1850 ; chartered, —, 1851.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1850.) .

Officers.—Coldwell P. Pool, W. M.; James Pool, S. W.; S. B. Scripture, J. W.; S. B. Thompson, Treasurer ; Francis P. Redmond, Secretary ; James Miller, S. D.; Wm. H. Cheairs, J. D.; Geo. K. Mitchell, S. and Tyler.

Raised.—Thomas Mull.

Passed and Raised.—Z. H. Whitemoon.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—S. B. McRenols. (?)

ORIZABA, No. 149—ORIZABA, TIPPAAH COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, Jan. 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—A. G. Frazier, W. M.; M. W. Moody, S. W.; C. C. Brinkley, J. W. G. A. Woods, Treasurer ; L. E. Laird, Secretary ; W. P. Dickson, S. D.; N. J. Thornton, J. D.; E. M. Wells, S. and Tyler.

Members.—W. G. McGill, Wm. Goudy, W. J. Riddle, David A. Panault, S. Witz, E. Walker, L. S. Wells, Jas. Kelly, John W. Lemonds, R. P. Harrison, T. W. Clark, Adlai Beard.

Initiated and Passed.—John B. Spencer, B. Prather.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Robert J. Hill, W. F. Cole, J. L. Biggs, F. L. Laird, M. Parker, J. M. Wells, R. N. Blythe, E. W. Snow, J. S. Laird, W. A. Spradling, B. F. Scott, J. W. Norris, Arch'd Crockett, J. D. Dickerson.

Dimitted.—J. L. Biggs.

Rejected.—T. B. Clark, Samuel White, Thos. Guist, S. Fork.

CENTRE RIDGE, No. 150—CENTRE RIDGE, KEMPER COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered January 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—Michael Ross, W. M.; Peter P. Cullum, S. W.; Jas. S. Netherby, J. W.; Jacob Odom, Treasurer ; Wm. Smith, Secretary ; Thos. C. Murphy, S. D.; Jno. T. Merrill, J. D.; Wm. M. Hill, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Benj. Tubbs, Osborn Jones, Albert Brown, Sharkey Sharp, James Doty.

Initiated.—Beverley G. Terry.

Initiated and Passed.—John L. Newcomb.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Wm. F. Rogers, A. Barfield, J. P. L. Monta-

gue, John White, A. G. Nicholson, Wm. R. Vaughan, C. M. Vaughan, Wm. C. Rush, George H. Price, J. G. Shumate, Isaac White, W. S. Gamble, Henry White, M. Rush, W. C. Meeks, Wm. C. Deggs, G. W. Elerbe, R. Crawford, N. Crump, P. Jenkins, Felix Smith, W. W. Montague, H. R. Austry.

DALEVILLE, No. 151—DALEVILLE, LAUDERDALE COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, January 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—W. S. Ragland, W. M.; J. W. Brown, S. W.; O. Stone, J. W.; — Treasurer ; —, Secretary ; James Blanks, S. D.; C. C. Trawick, J. D.; E. F. Johnston, S. and Tyler.

Member.—R. S. Finley.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Jas. B. Ramsey, L. B. Moore, J. F. Cole, S. Simmons, John Clayton, W. L. Cole, W. A. Clayton, J. H. Winningham, J. Butler, C. G. Clayton, E. Mosely, J. C. Ellerbe.

PALMETTO, No. 153—PALMETTO, PONTOTOC COUNTY. (1851)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, January 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—B. M. Feemster, W. M.; A. W. Feemster, S. W.; J. F. Monohan, J. W.; W. H. Calhoun, Treasurer ; R. C. Cunningham, Secretary ; J. C. Reed, S. D.; S. A. Dalton, J. D.; N. A. Langford, S. and Tyler.

PINE BLUFF, No. 153—PINE BLUFF, COPIAH COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, January 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—John Fatheree, W. M.; J. F. Vance, S. W.; S. G. Jenkins, J. W. John C. Dodds, Treasurer ; A. L. Stewart, Secretary ; J. A. Graves, S. D.; E. F. Curtis J. D.; M. J. Bickham, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Geo. W. Ellis,* Hugh Dunning,* Wm. H. Allen,* L. Gardner.*

Passed and Raised.—W. H. Allen, M. J. Rickham.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—G. W. Ellis, Hugh Dunning, E. F. Curtis.

Admitted.—*L. Gardner.

* Error—could not admit any to membership.—G. S.

POLAR STAR, No. 154—MISSISSIPPI CITY, HARRISON COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, Jan. 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—W. A. Chapin, W. M.; R. C. Cowan, S.W.; R. D. Ransom, J. W.;

D. McBean, Treasurer ; Geo. D. Richard, Secretary ; Lafayette Cleveland, S. D.; Nimrod McGuire, J. D.; Wm. J. S. Dear, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Wm. J. Evans, M. Feltin, John Brill, Hardy Dear.

Initiated and Passed.—H. E. Seaman.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Wm. D. Coates, James White, Joshua Jacobs, Noah Lyon, James M. Dannelly, S. Hogan, C. G. Dannelly.

Died.—Wm. J. Evans.

HARTFORD, No. 155—HARTFORD, CHICKASAW COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, Jan. 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—Benj. Murray, W. M.; L. N. Phillips, S. W.; E. J. Enochs, J. W.; Harvey C. Orr, Treasurer ; Thos. H. Davis, Secretary ; W. F. P. Andrews, S. D.; James H. Kerr, J. D.; John Johnson, S. and Tyler.

Initiated.—James R. Lester.

Initiated and Passed.—L. W. Reasons.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—W. F. P. Andrews, W. T. Hastings, John A. Craze, A. H. Luker, B. Cruthirds, G. W. Lucas, Henry Carter, P. R. Ward, J. E. Henderson, S. S. Spencer, F. M. Hastings, J. W. Freeman, A. B. Carter.

Rejected.—John Burt.

HARRISBURG, No. 156—HARRISBURG, PONTOTOC COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, Jan. 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—A. S. Wear, W. M.; Wm. R. Harris, S. W.; James P. Bolding, J. W.; James Sample, Treasurer ; G. C. Thomason, Secretary ; Wm. J. Norwood, S. D.; John P. Henderson, J. D.; Gilbert Kennedy, S. and Tyler.

Initiated.—J. R. Ellis.

Initiated and Passed.—Wm. T. Vance, John Sullivan, John H. Long, Burwell Jackson, H. H. Mattison, J. L. Arnold.

Raised.—Wm. G. Vance.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Abraham Collins, Elijah Moore, B. F. McWhorter, T. H. Camp.

Admitted.—A. T. Hill.

Rejected.—John Reeder, Thos. Armstead.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, No. 157—CHARLESTON, TALLAHATCHIE COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, Jan. 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—James W. Rhew, W. M.; Elisha West, S. W.; A. G. Murphy, J. W.; Sam'l Foster, A. R. Brown, Secretary ; W. B. Warren, S. D.; James A. Crofford, J. D.

Initiated.—B. E. Baker, P. H. Thornton, J. M. D. Murray, John B. Davison, Jas. W. Harper.

Initiated and Passed.—M. W. Byers, Thos. H. Ross.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—G. G. Lankin, V. Tapp, James S. Bailey, E. Armstrong, J. G. Kendrick, W. W. Cunningham, John Moore, A. Just, J. W. Foster, J. W. Tanner, P. W. Tanner, James Hamlett, Willis Shaw, W. A. Davison, A. Ball, James Weatherby, D. Sayers, W. A. Caperton, F. W. Furguson.

JEREMIAH, No. 158—JEREMIAH, DESOTO COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, Jan 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—Jeremiah Burns, W. M.; Geo. W. Perkins, S. W.; C. B. Payne, J. W.; Josiah Maples, Treasurer; J. B. Bridgforth, Secretary; John Maxwell, S. D.; George Phillips, J. D.; Pryor P. Crawford, S. and Tyler.

Members.—T. O. Bridgforth, John P. Hobbs, R. S. Manning, David Maxwell, W. M. Meredith, Berlin Peebles, Y. C. Stokes, C. Christopher, W. W. Crawford, E. B. Turner, B. C. D. Bynum.

Initiated.—D. W. Allen.

Initiated and Passed.—Sam'l Bell.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—C. C. English, G. W. Wimberley, W. B. Morris, G. W. Gray, J. A. Smith, Jas. Ragland, James E. Crawford, Wm. Bryor, W. H. Wilson.

CANNON, No. 159—WEST POINT, LOWNDES COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, Jan. 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—Williams Cooper, W. M.; Jas. T. Randolph, S. W.; Jas. H. Westbrook, Treasurer; A. E. McInnis, Secretary; Jesse Ellis, S. D.; John W. Stone, J. D.

Initiated.—L. W. Carr, J. W. Crump, B. G. Denham.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Moses Jordan, J. D. Travis, Phineas Harris, J. R. Dunlap.

ELLISVILLE, No. 161—ELLISVILLE, JONES COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, Jan. 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 17, 1851.)

Officers.—E. B. Harvey, W. M.; Jephtha Rush, S. W.; E. A. Johnson, J. W. A. G. Pool, Treasurer; J. E. Welborn, Secretary; H. D. Dissett, S. D.; W. M. Duckworth, J. D.; Thos. Hill, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Wm. P. Tinsdale, Joseph Graves, Jas. W. Hill.

Initiated.—Thos. Dyas, Jas. C. Reddoch, J. J. Shows.

Initiated and Passed.—Jesse Hensarling, Joel Clark, Albert Knight, J. N. Graham.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Chas. Hollander, J. L. Owen, D. M. Shows.

Died.—Jephtha Rush.

ST. JOHN'S, No. 162—SPRING RIDGE, HINDS COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, Jan. 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—Henry J. Holmes, W. M.; David Gordon, S. W.; X. L. Bracy, J. W.; Wm. Hester, Treasurer ; Jas. M. Chiles, Secretary ; J. L. Horne, S. D.; W. D. Terry, J. D.; Hugh Sheridan, S. and Tyler.

Members.—J. B. Statham, A. J. Bracy, Hugh McGowen.

Initiated.—J. E. McGowen, John Raney, Benj. F. Evans, Wm. H. Lee.

Initiated and Passed.—Jesse Woodall.

Initiated Passed and Raised.—J. A. T. Mason, Wm. H. Dean.

Admitted.—A. R. Granberry.

Rejected.—J. E. Brogan.

VINTON, No. 163—VINTON, LOWNDES COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, Jan. 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—Reuben Nason, W. M.; H. W. Allen, S. W.; W. R. Smith, J. W.; John T. Young, Secretary.

Members.—J. M. Capshaw, Howell Adams, C. Q. Sands, Josiah Harrell Wm. F. Franks.

Initiated.—John Burnett.

Initiated and Passed.—Jesse Martin.

Passed.—Lewis Carr.

Raised.—R. B. Carr.

Passed and Raised.—John Bennett, B. G. Denman.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—John T. Young, Wm. Dowring, M. W. Young Wm. L. Boyken, R. G. Miller.

CARSON, No. 164—ROYSTON'S HOUSE, MARSHALL COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered Jan. 21, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—W. A. P. Jones, W. M.; Jas. P. Anderson, S. W.; Samuel Willis, J. W.; John Brandon, Treasurer ; J. H. Robinson, Secretary ; C. B. Shelton, S. D.; J. S. Woffard, J. D.; Robert Carson, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Jno. Campbell, J. S. Davis.

Initiated.—Samuel Paulk, F. Poron, R. H. Rhodes, Jno. Spillers.

Initiated and Passed.—Wm. Nelson.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—V. S. Grisham, B. Utley, J. Shelton.

SMITHVILLE, No. 165—SMITHVILLE, MONROE COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, Jan. 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers.—Joseph Brown, W. M.; G. W. Tucker, S. W.; O. Martin, J. W.;

H. Hood, Treasurer ; Wm. Hood, Secretary ; S. Mayfield, S. D.; John Thomas, J. D.; S. D. Stegal, S. and Tyler.

Initiated.—H. W. Brown, T. R. Dansby, M. McDuffie, J. N. Northcut, B. O. Mosely, Floyd Winter.

Initiated and Passed.—L. Spruell, W. W. Spruell.

Raised.—R. D. Hudson.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—B. J. Wall, J. L. Wall, Wm. Stegall, C. H. Ballard, C. Dowd, J. S. Dalrymple, H. B. Brown, Jephtha Evans, H. Stidhan.

AUBURN, No. 166—AUBURN, HINDS COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; chartered, Jan. 22, 1852.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers—Wm. M. Wells, W. M.; Wm. Wilkinson, S. W.; S. W. Montgomery, J. W.; Gideon B. Hall, Treasurer ; Jas. J. Lewis, Secretary ; Wm. H. Bailey, S. D.; Henderson Lowrey, J. D.; Charles King, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Wilson F. Dillon, Clement Davis, A. J. M. Smith.

Initiated.—Reuben F. Bennett, Jesse F. Herd, S. G. Marshall, Wm. H. Rives.

Initiated and Passed.—Sam'l G. Kelker.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—M. H. McRae, Richard Tidings, Reuben F. Bennett, Jno. M. Murchison.

Rejected.—Sidney S. Whitehead, Stephen A. Daniels.

PLEASANT GROVE, U. D. *—PLEASANT GROVE, SMITH COUNTY. (1851.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1851 ; never chartered.

(Report for the year ending December 27, 1851.)

Officers—Felix Barnes, W. M.; W. K. Flowers, S. W.; C. C. Broadfoot, J. W.; W. T. Smythe, Treasurer ; R. M. Davis, Secretary ; Richard C. Saunders, S. D.; J. M. Floyd, J. D. *p. t.* ; Jos. Jones, S. and Tyler.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—W. G. Barnes, R. L. Keon.

* Dispensation was returned and no charter asked for.

The following Returns were omitted in their proper place:

EASTERN STAR, No. 79—MONTICELLO LAWRENCE COUNTY. (1846.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1846 ; chartered — 1847.

(Report from February 17, 1847, to February 17, 1848.)

Officers.—Thos. Y. Grinstead, W. M.; Wm. A. Stone, S. W.; John Gartman, J. W.; George J. Cohea, Treasurer; Wm. Vaunerson, Sec'y; H. S. Rotwitz, S. D.; Thos. Mobley, J. D.; Wm. Brawne, S. and Tyler.

Members.—Joseph Ratcliff, John H. Teunisson, Charles H. Fox, H. H. Bridges, O. F. McCarty, James Shickland, Jas. E. Harper, Solomon Suttoux, J. Wetherby, Samuel Marx, Robert Jones, Wm. Weatherby, Hugh Sinclair, Robert Jelks.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—Sam'l Marx, Hugh Sinclair, Wm. Weatherby.

Passed and Raised.—Robert Jones.

Initiated.—Moses Marx.

Passed.—A. Hartzog.

Admitted.—Robert Jelks.

Removed.—William Brown.

Lost Membership.—Arthur Fox.

In Mexican War.—William Strother, C. Grovenaux.

Died.—Thomas Y. Grinstead.

UNITED FRIENDS, No. 91—PRINCETON, WASHINGTON COUNTY. (1847.)

Dispensation granted, —, 1747 ; chartered, —, 1848.

(Report from April, 1874, to 3d Monday in February 1848.)

Officers.—Robert J. Fitz, W. M.; Alex. McLeod, S. W.; Council R. Bass, J. W.; Stephen Warren, Treasurer; Thos. J. Likens, Sec'y; Thos. Kershaw, S. D.; Jas. B. Spann, J. D.; Geo. W. Prince; S. and Tyler.

Members.—Wm. C. Barrett, D. F. Blackburn, Wm. Bluck, D. F. Castleman, J. P. Cunningham, Jas. H. Garrett, Jackson M. Hann, Wm. H. Hurst, E. B. Hornsbeak, Walter C. Loftin, James McFadden, Alfred W. Moseley, D. A. J. Parker, Lewis Rose, R. P. Shelby, Abram F. Smith, Littleton W. Taylor, Edward Tidwell, Charles Turnbull.

Initiated Passed and Raised.—Abram F. Smith, D. F. Blackburn, Lewis Rose, Littleton W. Taylor, J. P. Cunningham, Alfred W. Moseley, James H. Garrett, Charles Turnbull, William Bluck, Walter C. Loftin, Wm. C. Barrett, Edward Tidwell, Jackson M. Hann, James McFadden.

Initiated and Passed.—John L. Chapman, Wm. H. Browning.

Admitted.—T. J. Lickens, James B. Spann, Stephen Warren, Geo. W. Prince, D. A. J. Parker.

CHARLES SCOTT, No. 136—BARROW'S FERRY, SIMPSON COUNTY. (1850.)

Dispensation granted, 1850 ; chartered Feb. 5, 1851.

(First Report, for the year ending December 27, 1850.)

Officers.—L. D. Forbis, W. M.; Wm. D. Havis, S. W.; John B. Butler, J. W.; R. Blackman, Treasurer; J. B. Catching, Secretary; A. D. Collins, S. D.; Joel Evans, J. D.; J. C. Gates, S. and Tyler.

Initiated, Passed and Raised.—S. P. Barron, S. M. Sistrunk, G. W. Bridges.

Initiated.—Wm. Barron, John Guynes, Benj. Pope.

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*Error in the Record. P. A. VanDorn was appointed as is stated subsequently.

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